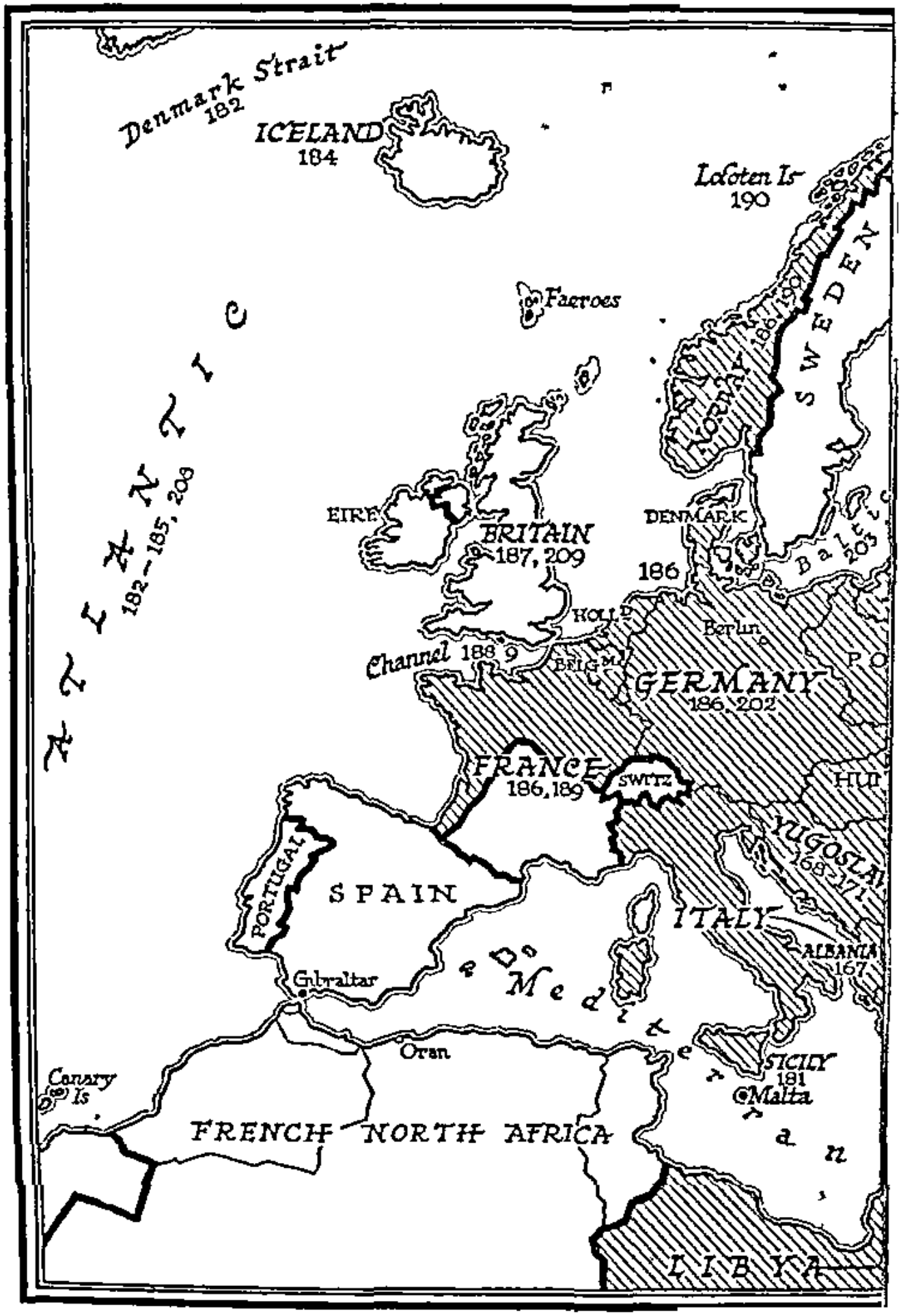
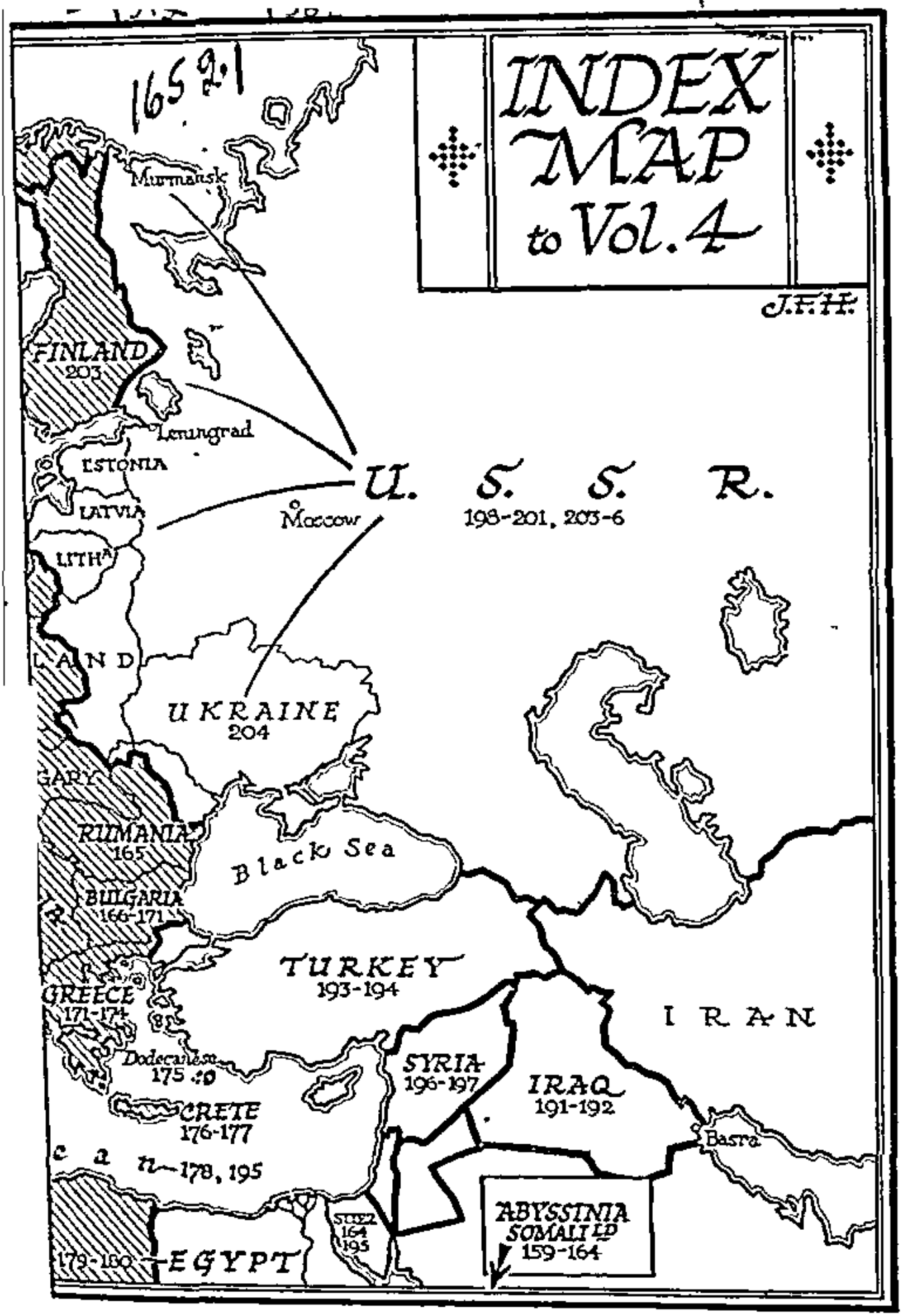

Denmark Strait
182
ICELAND
184
Lofoten Is
190
Faeroes
ATLANTIC
182–185, 209
SWEDEN
NORWAY
186, 190
EIRE
BRITAIN
187, 209
DENMARK
186
Baltic Sea
205
HOLLD
Berlin
Channel
188 9
BELGM
GERMANY
186, 202
FRANCE
186, 189
SWITZ
HUN
YUGOSLAV
168, 171
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
ITALY
ALBANIA
167
Gibraltar
Mediterranean
Oran
Canary Is
SICILY
181
Malta
FRENCH NORTH AFRICA
LIBYA


INDEX MAP to Vol. 4
J.F.H.
Murmansk
FINLAND 203
Leningrad
ESTONIA
LATVIA
LITHA
U. S. S. R.
Moscow
198-201, 203-6
UKRAINE 204
RUMANIA 165
Black Sea
BULGARIA 166-171
TURKEY 193-194
GREECE 171-174
Dodecanese 175
CRETE 176-177
SYRIA 196-197
IRAQ 191-192
IRAN
Basra
ABYSSINIA SOMALI LD 159-164
SUEZ 164 195
EGYPT 179-180

AN ATLAS-HISTORY OF THE SECOND GREAT WAR

VOLUME FOUR

Also by J F HORRABIN

AN ATLAS OF CURRENT AFFAIRS

AN ATLAS OF EMPIRE

THE OPENING-UP OF THE WORLD

etc

Vol. IV.—January 1941 to July 1941

AN ATLAS-HISTORY OF THE SECOND GREAT WAR

by

J. F. HORRABIN

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS LTD
LONDON EDINBURGH PARIS MELBOURNE
TORONTO AND NEW YORK

All rights reserved

THOMAS NELSON & SONS LTD
3 HENRIETTA STREET LONDON W C.2
PARKSIDE WORKS EDINBURGH
25 RUE DENFERT ROCHEREAU PARIS
312 FLINDERS STREET MELBOURNE
91–93 WELLINGTON STREET WEST TORONTO
385 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK

Volume I first published March 1940
Reprinted March May 1940
Volume II first published September 1940
Reprinted January 1941
Volume III first published April 1941
Reprinted May 1941
Volume IV first published September 1941

LIST OF CONTENTS

159 The Abyssinian Campaign (1)
160 The Abyssinian Campaign (2)
161 The Abyssinian Campaign (3)
162 The Abyssinian Campaign (4)
163 The Abyssinian Campaign (5)
164 The Red Sea Opened
165 Germany Strikes South east
166 Bulgaria joins the Axis
167 The War in Albania
168 Yugoslavia stands Firm
169 The Attack on Yugoslavia (1)
170 The Attack on Yugoslavia (2)
171 The Fall of Salonika
172 The Campaign in Greece (1)
173 The Campaign in Greece (2)
174 Germany seizes the Ægean
175 The Dodecanese Islands
176 Crete (1)
177 Crete (2)
178 The Battle of Cape Matapan
179 German Counter attack in Libya (1)
180 German Counter attack in Libya (2)
181 Valiant Malta
182 The Sinking of the "Bismarck"

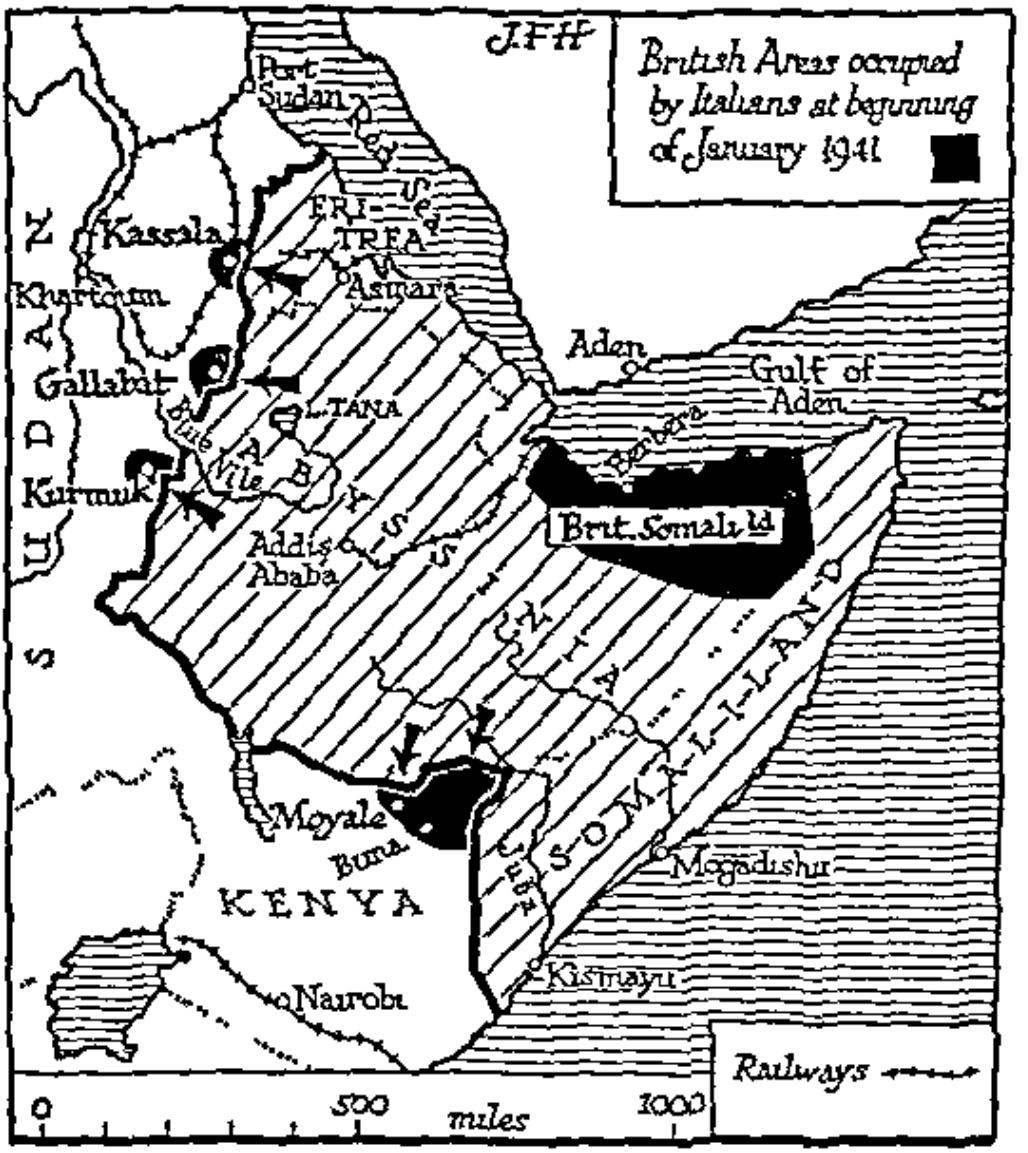
183. "Western Hemisphere Defence" (1).
184. "Western Hemisphere Defence" (2).
185. Bombers in the Atlantic.
186. "Aircraft of Bomber Command . . ."
187. German Raids on Britain.
188. The R.A.F. sweeps the Channel.
189. German Warships hide in Brest.
190. The Raid on the Lofoten Islands.
191. Axis Plots in Iraq (1).
192. Axis Plots in Iraq (2).
193. Turkey's "Back Door."
194. Turkey signs a German Pact.
195. The Threat to Suez.
196. Britain acts in Syria (1).
197. Britain acts in Syria (2).
198. Hitler invades Russia (1).
199. Hitler invades Russia (2).
200. Hitler invades Russia (3).
201. Hitler invades Russia (4).
202. Bombers over the Reich.
203. The Gateways to Leningrad.
204. The Wealth of the Ukraine.
205. The Riddle of Japan.
206. Russian Production.
207. Lease-and-Lend.
208. Allied Shipping Losses.
209. Civilian Casualties in Air Raids.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

FUHRERS and army commanders pay no regard, when making their war plans, to the symmetry of histories published at half yearly intervals This volume, accordingly, while it can chronicle more or less completely the campaigns in Abyssinia, the Balkans, Iraq, and Syria, had to be finished just as the biggest struggle of all, that in Russia, was beginning Remembering the speed at which modern war moves, one may be certain that momentous events will have happened on the Eastern front long before this book is in print It must therefore end with the words, " *To be continued* "

J F H

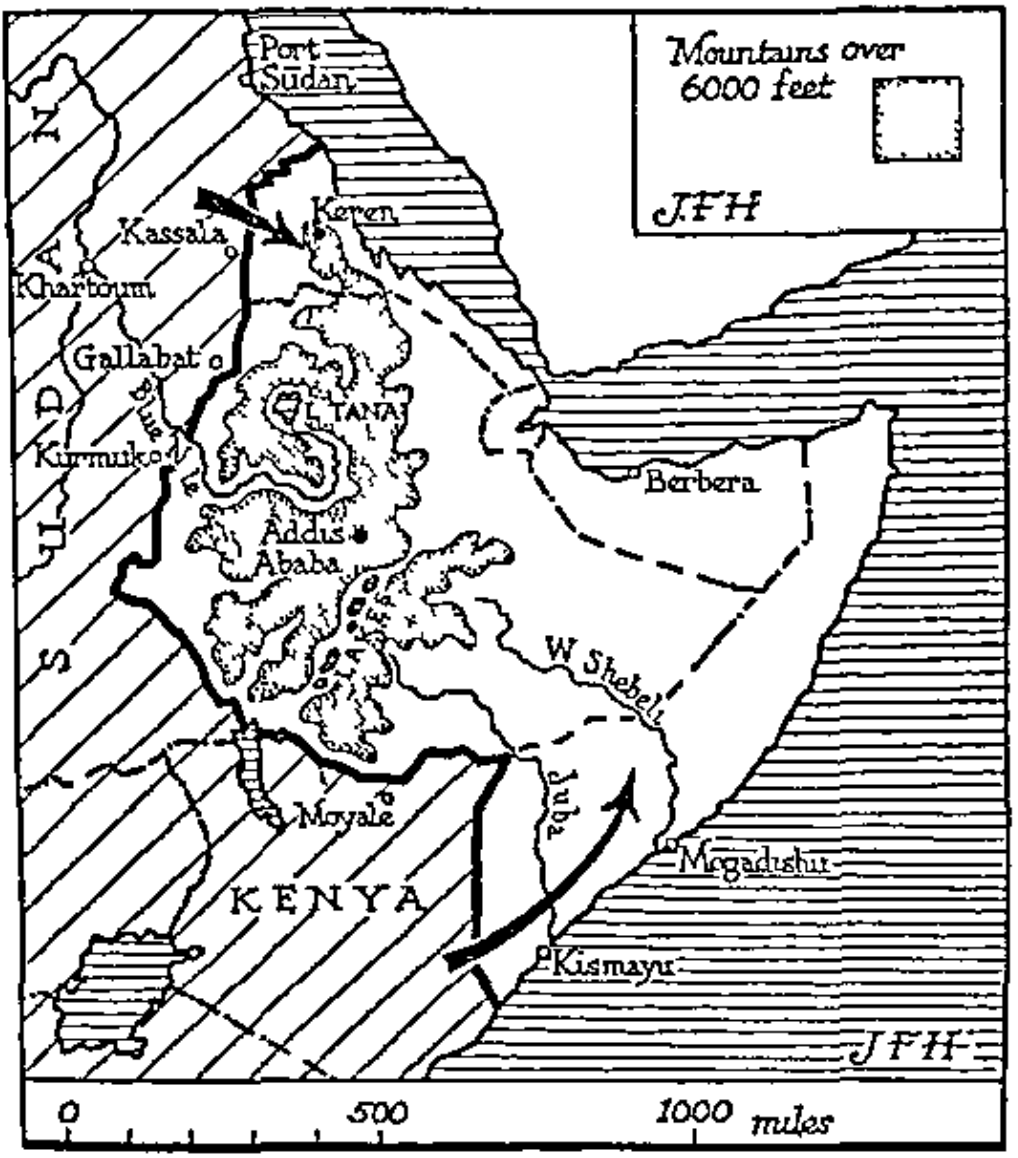
July, 1941


J.F.H.
British Areas occupied by Italians at beginning of January 1941
Port Sudan
ERITREA
Asmara
Kassala
Khartoum
Gallabat
L. TANA
Blue Nile
Kurmuk
Addis Ababa
Aden
Gulf of Aden
Brit. Somaliland
SOMALILAND
Moyale
Buna
KENYA
Nairobi
Mogadishu
Kismayu
Railways
0
500
miles
1000

The Abyssinian Campaign (1)—

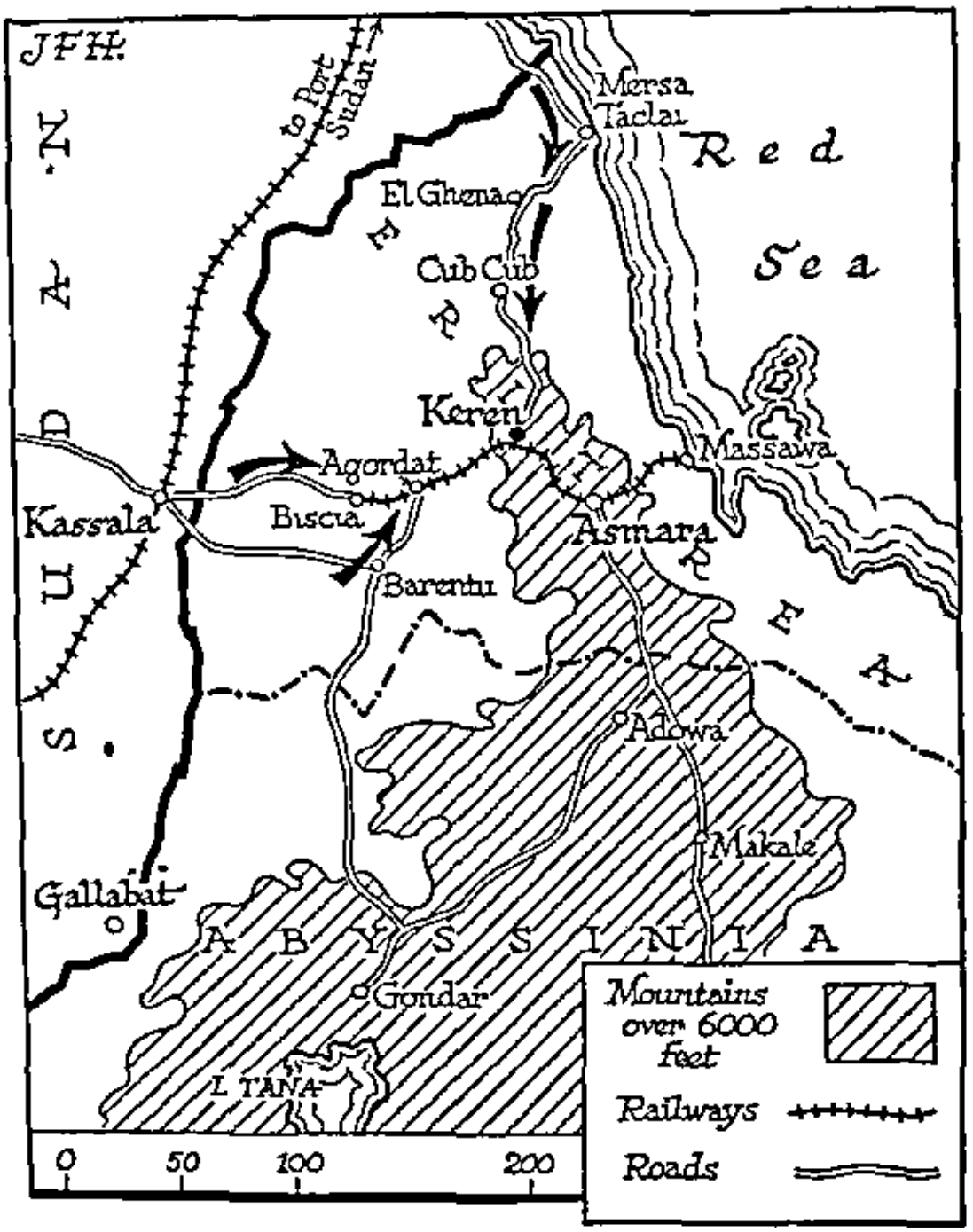
At the beginning of 1941 the Italians still held the whole of their East African possessions—Eritrea, Abyssinia, and Somaliland—together with British Somaliland, taken by them in August, 1940, and various small areas within the Sudanese and Kenya frontiers. There was relative quiet in all this zone of the war during the later months of 1940. But in January, 1941, a British-Imperial offensive was begun; and signs were apparent of revolt within Abyssinia, where Patriot forces, supported by the R.A.F., were harassing the Italians in the Blue Nile regions east of Kurmuk. It became known that a British military mission had been in the country for some months, rousing and training Abyssinian forces. The Emperor Haile Selassie was now at Khartoum, awaiting the opportune moment to put himself at the head of his countrymen.

On 19th January Kassala, on the Port Sudan railway, was retaken from the Italians, and an advance into Eritrea begun. By the end of the month operations had started in the Gallabat-Kurmuk area, as well as in northern Kenya and along the coast from Kenya towards Kismayu (see following maps).


Mountains over 6000 feet
JFH
Port Sūdan
Kassala
Keren
Khartoum
Gallabat
Blue Nile
TANA
Kurmuk
Addis Ababa
Berbera
W Shebeli
Juba
Moyale
Mogadishu
KENYA
Kismayu
JFH
0
500
1000 miles

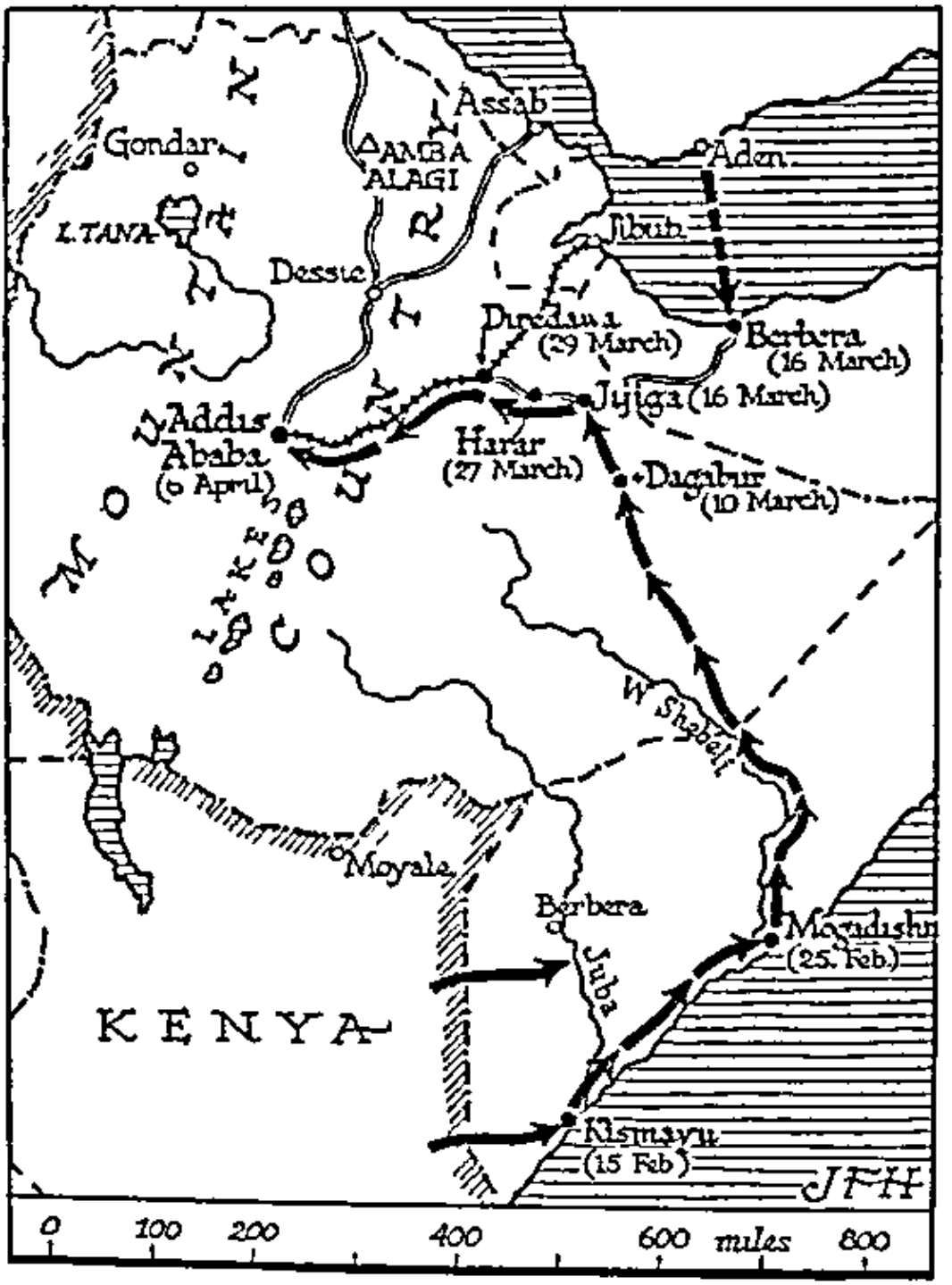
The Abyssinian Campaign (2)—

ALL western Abyssinia is difficult mountainous country, broken by the Blue Nile valley, north-west of Addis Abāba—the area in which Abyssinian Patriot forces were gathering—and the Great Rift Valley, with its chain of lakes, in the south. The British–Imperial plan of campaign was to outflank this vast mountain area by two main offensives more than 1,000 miles apart—in the north, in the direction of Keren; and in the south, from Kenya, across the Juba River, and thence northward up the Webi Shebeli.


JFH.
to Port Sudan
Mersa Taclai
Red Sea
El Ghenaa
Cub Cub
Keren
Massawa
Agordat
Kassala
Biscia
Asmara
Barentu
Adowa
Makale
Gallabat
Gondar
L. TANA
ABYSSINIA
SUDAN
ERITREA
0 50 100 200
Mountains over 6000 feet
Railways
Roads

The Abyssinian Campaign (3)—

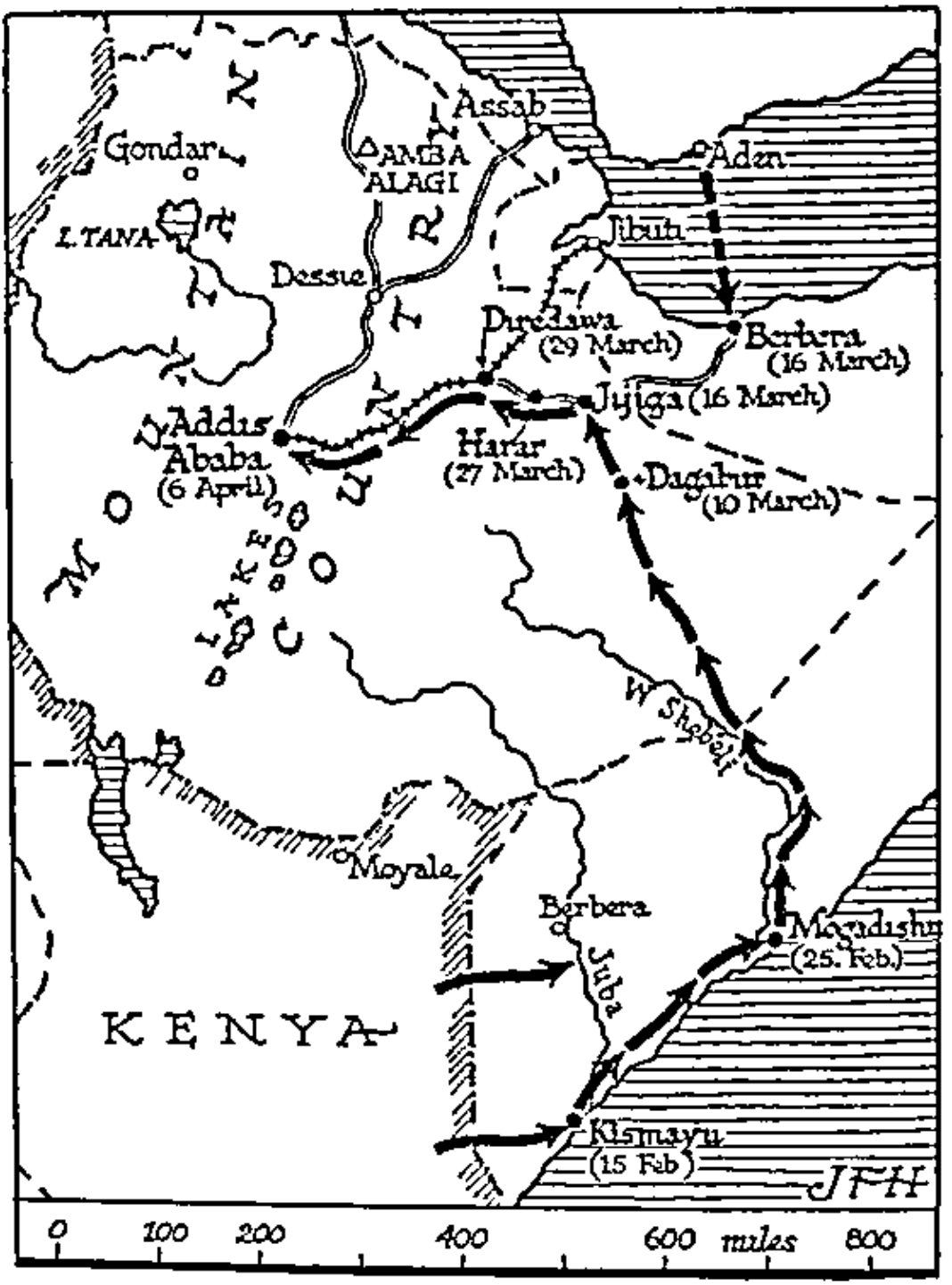
THE offensive in the north, which within a few days of the retaking of Kassala had advanced as far as Agordat, had then to operate against the northern end of the Abyssinian mountain country. Here the Italians held a strongly fortified position at Keren. British-Imperial troops, coming southward by the road from Mersa Taclai, completed the investing forces; and before the end of February Keren was being attacked from all sides. It held out until 27th March, when it fell to British and Indian troops. Four days later Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, was taken. A week later, on 8th April, the port of Massawa was occupied, and all northern Eritrea was in British hands.


Assab
Gondar
AMBA ALAGI
Aden
L. TANA
Jibuti
Dessie
Dredawa (29 March)
Berbera (16 March)
Jijiga (16 March)
Addis Ababa (6 April)
Harar (27 March)
Dagabur (10 March)
MOGADISHU
W Shabeli
Moyale
Berbera
Juba
Mogadishu (25. Feb.)
KENYA
Kismayu (15 Feb)
JFH
0 100 200 400 600 miles 800

The Abyssinian Campaign (4)—

MEANWHILE the southern advance from Kenya, which was operating in more open country, had proceeded with startling rapidity. South African troops, with Africans from the Gold Coast and Nigeria as well as from Kenya, reached Kismayu, on the coast, on 15th February, and the port of Mogadishu ten days later. Thence they struck northward, along the Webi Shebeli, across the Abyssinian frontier, and in less than two weeks after the fall of Mogadishu had reached Dagabur, between 500 and 600 miles distant. Jijiga, on the road linking Berbera with the Addis Ababa railway, was taken on 16th March. On the same day a force coming by sea from Aden retook Berbera, and ended the Italian occupation of British Somaliland.

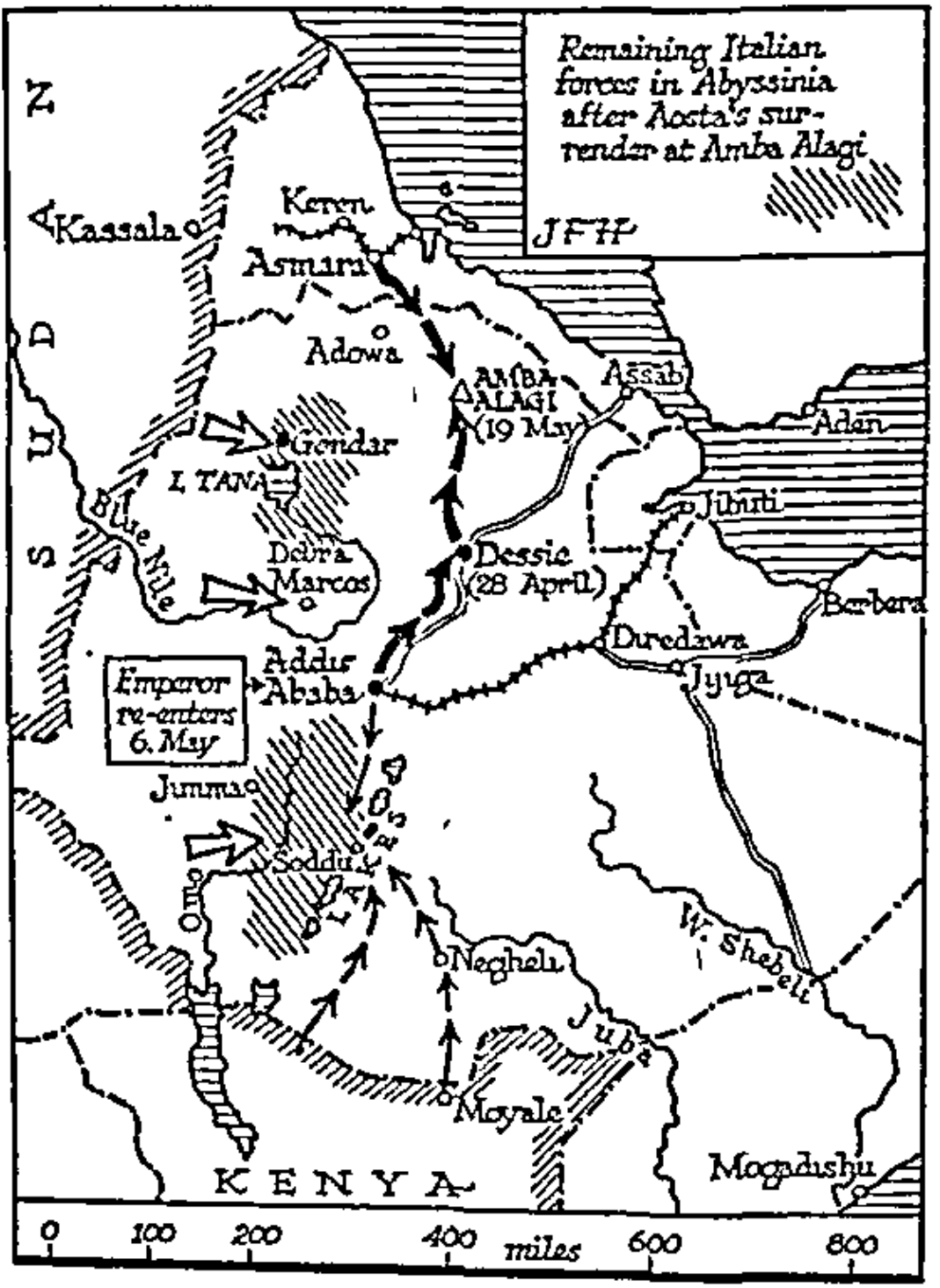
The British-African advance continued westward from Jijiga, through Harar and Diredawa, and thence along the Addis Ababa railway. The capital was entered on 6th April, less than two months after the beginning of the attack from the Kenya frontier. More than 1,500 miles had been covered.


Assab
Gondar
AMBA ALAGI
Aden
L. TANA
Jibuti
Dessie
Dire Dawa (29 March)
Berbera (16 March)
Jijiga (16 March)
Addis Ababa (6 April)
Harar (27 March)
Dagahur (10 March)
MOGOLLA
W Shebeli
Moyale
Berbera
Juba
Mogadishu (25. Feb.)
KENYA
Kismayu (15 Feb)
JFH
0 100 200 400 600 miles 800

The Abyssinian Campaign (4)—

MEANWHILE the southern advance from Kenya, which was operating in more open country, had proceeded with startling rapidity. South African troops, with Africans from the Gold Coast and Nigeria as well as from Kenya, reached Kismayu, on the coast, on 15th February, and the port of Mogadishu ten days later. Thence they struck *northward, along the Webi Shebeli, across the* Abyssinian frontier, and in less than two weeks after the fall of Mogadishu had reached Dagabur, between 500 and 600 miles distant. Jijiga, on the road linking Berbera with the Addis Ababa railway, was taken on 16th March. On the same day a force coming by sea from Aden retook Berbera, and ended the Italian occupation of British Somaliland.

The British–African advance continued westward from Jijiga, through Harar and Diredawa, and thence along the Addis Ababa railway. The capital was entered on 6th April, less than two months after the beginning of the attack from the Kenya frontier. More than 1,500 miles had been covered.

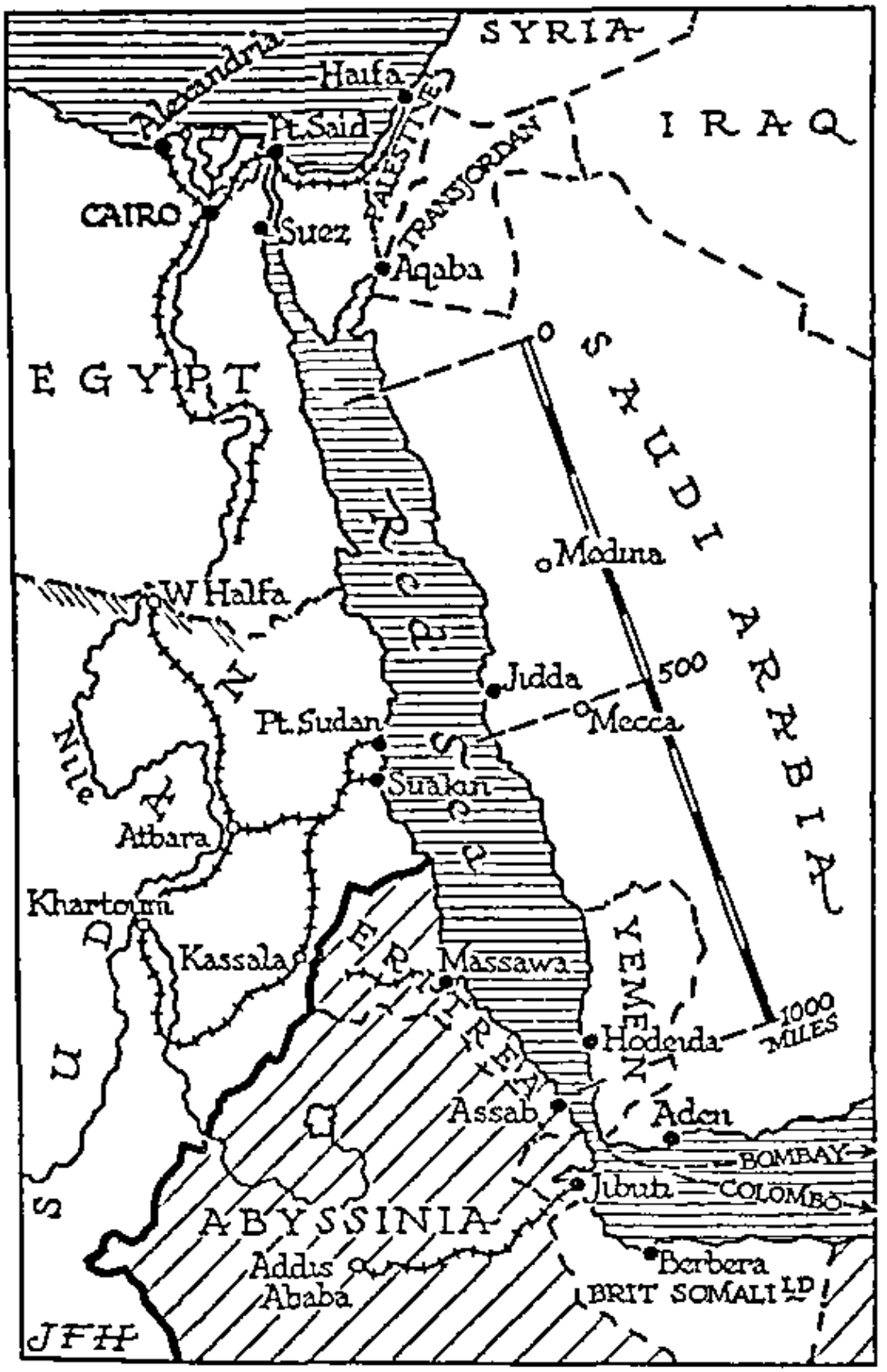

Remaining Italian forces in Abyssinia after Aosta's surrender at Amba Alagi
Kassala
Keren
Asmara
Adowa
AMBA ALAGI (19 May)
Assab
Aden
Gondar
L. TANA
Blue Nile
Debra Marcos
Dessie (28 April)
Jibuti
Berbera
Dredawa
Jyga
Addis Ababa
Emperor re-enters 6. May
Jumma
Soddu
Neghelli
W. Shebeli
Juba
Moyale
KENYA
Mogadishu
0 100 200 400 miles 600 800

The Abyssinian Campaign (5)—

After the fall of Addis Ababa the main Italian forces under the Duke of Aosta retreated north-east towards Dessie. The Imperial troops took Dessie on 28th April, driving the Italians farther north to the mountain stronghold of Amba Alagi. Another force moving south from Asmara cut off the Italian retreat, and on 19th May the Italian commander surrendered, with some 18,000 men. The Emperor had made his formal entry into his capital two weeks earlier.

Italian resistance was now confined to two main areas in the mountains—in the north, in the region of Gondar; in the south, in the area of the Lakes and the river Omo. Fresh forces operating from northern Kenya took part in the fighting in this latter region. On 10th June it was announced that a further 45,000 square miles in the Omo River region had been conquered. On 22nd June Patriot forces captured Jimma.

The Eritrean port of Assab was taken on 12th June. By the beginning of July only a small pocket of enemy forces in the Gondar area remained to be cleared.


SYRIA
Alexandria
Haifa
Pt.Said
IRAQ
PALESTINE
TRANSJORDAN
CAIRO
Suez
Aqaba
EGYPT
SAUDI ARABIA
Medina
W Halfa
Jidda
500
Pt.Sudan
Mecca
Suakin
Nile
Atbara
Khartoum
Kassala
Massawa
YEMEN
1000 MILES
Hodeida
Assab
Aden
BOMBAY
Jibuti
COLOMBO
ABYSSINIA
Addis Ababa
Berbera
BRIT SOMALI LD
JFH

The Red Sea Opened—

On 11th April—immediately following the British capture of Massawa, the port of Italian Eritrea, and in view of the British naval control of the whole coastline of Somali land and Eritrea—President Roosevelt issued a proclamation declaring that the Red Sea was no longer a combat zone, and permitting American shipping to sail up the east coast of Africa as far as Suez

165


GERMANY
U. S. S. R.
Vienna
Budapest
HUNGARY
YUGO-SLAVIA
Belgrade
RUMANIA
Bucharest
Danube
Sofia
BULGARIA
ITALY
ALBANIA
Salonika
TURKEY
GREECE
SICILY
Athens
Smyrna
DODECANESE IS
CRETE
JEH

Germany strikes South-East—

After the abdication of King Carol in September, 1940, Rumania (*cf.* Vol 3, pp. 68–69) had become a German military protectorate, and German troops were stationed at keypoints throughout the country. There was considerable internal disorder in many areas during January, and the Iron Guard revolted. But the rebellion was quelled, and General Antonescu formed a new military government with German support. German troop concentrations proceeded apace, and during February it was reported that units of the Luftwaffe were being moved south towards the Bulgarian frontier and German armed forces crossing into Bulgaria itself. Britain broke off diplomatic relations with Rumania on 10th February.

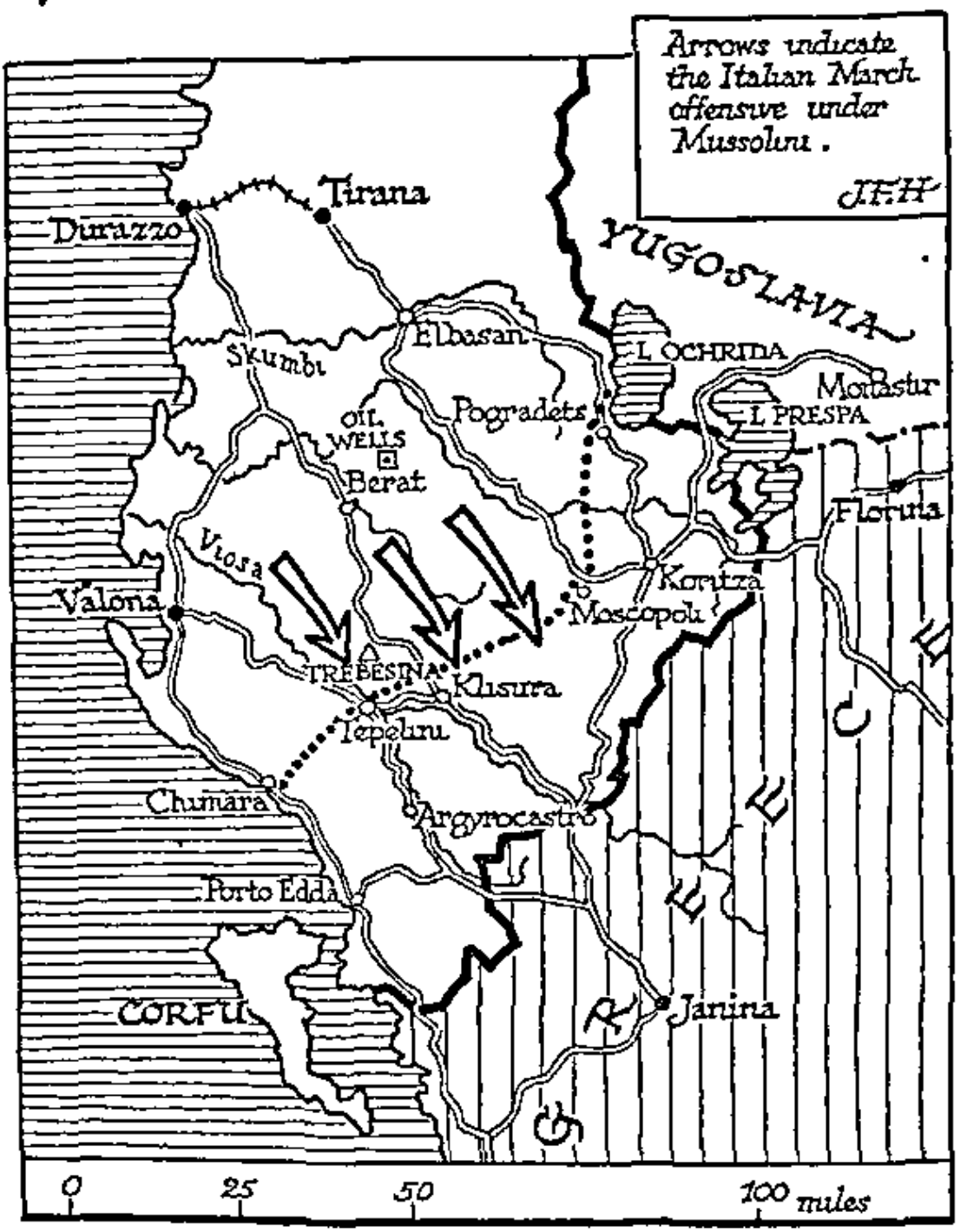
166


GERMANY
U. S. S. R.
Vienna
Budapest
HUNGARY
YUGO-SLAVIA
Belgrade
RUMANIA
Bucharest
Danube
ITALY
BULGARIA
Sofia
BLACK SEA
ALBANIA
Salonika
GREECE
TURKEY
SICILY
Athens
Smyrna
DODECANESE IS.
CRETE
JFH.

Bulgaria joins the Axis—

On 28th February the Bulgarian parliament met in secret session The following day the Bulgarian Prime Minister formally signified his country's adhesion to the Axis by signing a pact with Germany at Vienna , and reports followed immediately that German mechanized forces were crossing Bulgaria towards the Greek frontier On 5th March diplomatic relations between Britain and Bulgaria ceased German diplomatic pressure could now be effectively brought to bear on Yugoslavia The British Foreign Minister, Mr Eden, and Chief of Staff General Sir John Dill were in consultation with the Greek ministers and army chiefs in Athens

167


Arrows indicate the Italian March offensive under Mussolini.
J.F.H
Tirana
Durazzo
YUGOSLAVIA
Elbasan
L OCHRIDA
Skumbi
Pogradets
Monastir
L PRESPA
OIL WELLS
Berat
Floriua
Viosa
Valona
Koritza
Moscopoli
TREBESINA
Klisura
Tepelini
Chimara
Argyrocastro
Porto Edda
CORFU
Janina
0
25
50
100 miles

The War in Albania—

THE Greek–Italian war in Albania had been hindered by extreme weather conditions during the winter, but the Greeks still held firmly to the positions they had occupied during the first weeks of the campaign (see Vol 3, pp 82-83) During March, in a last desperate attempt to snatch a victory before the Germans came to their aid, the Italians launched a series of violent offensives on a 25-mile front in the central part of the line, on either side of Klisura Mussolini himself was reported to be in command For a week masses of men were hurled at the Greek positions All the attacks failed, and it is estimated that the Italian losses in killed and wounded were 40 per cent of the total attacking forces —some 48,000 out of 120,000 It remained for the Germans to come to the rescue


GERMANY
Buda Pest
HUNGARY
SLOVENES
Zagreb
Drave
CROATIA
Save
Danube
RUMANIA
Belgrade
ZARA (Ital.)
BOSNIA
Sarajevo
IRON GATE
Split
DALMATIA
SERBIA
Nish
Dubrovnik
Mutrovica
Kotor
BULGARIA
ITALY
Bari
Skoplje
Durazzo
ALBANIA
Brindisi
Monastir
Valona
Salonika
Janina
Larissa
Chief railways
0
100
200 miles

Yugoslavia stands Firm—

EVEN before the Germans had completed their penetration of Bulgaria they were actively working to secure Yugoslav non-belligerency in the event of a German attack on Greece. German agents were fomenting the differences between Serbs and Croats; there were reports of German offers of Albanian territory to Yugoslavia as a bribe for compliance. On 14th February Hitler received the Yugoslav Prime Minister and Foreign Minister at Berchtesgaden.

On 25th March the Yugoslav ministers signed a pact with Germany at Vienna. At once there were patriotic demonstrations against the pact throughout Yugoslavia; and on the 27th the Regent, Prince Paul, was deposed, the members of the government fled, and the young King Peter assumed power, with a new government headed by General Simovitch.

At dawn on 6th April Germany invaded Yugoslavia.

169

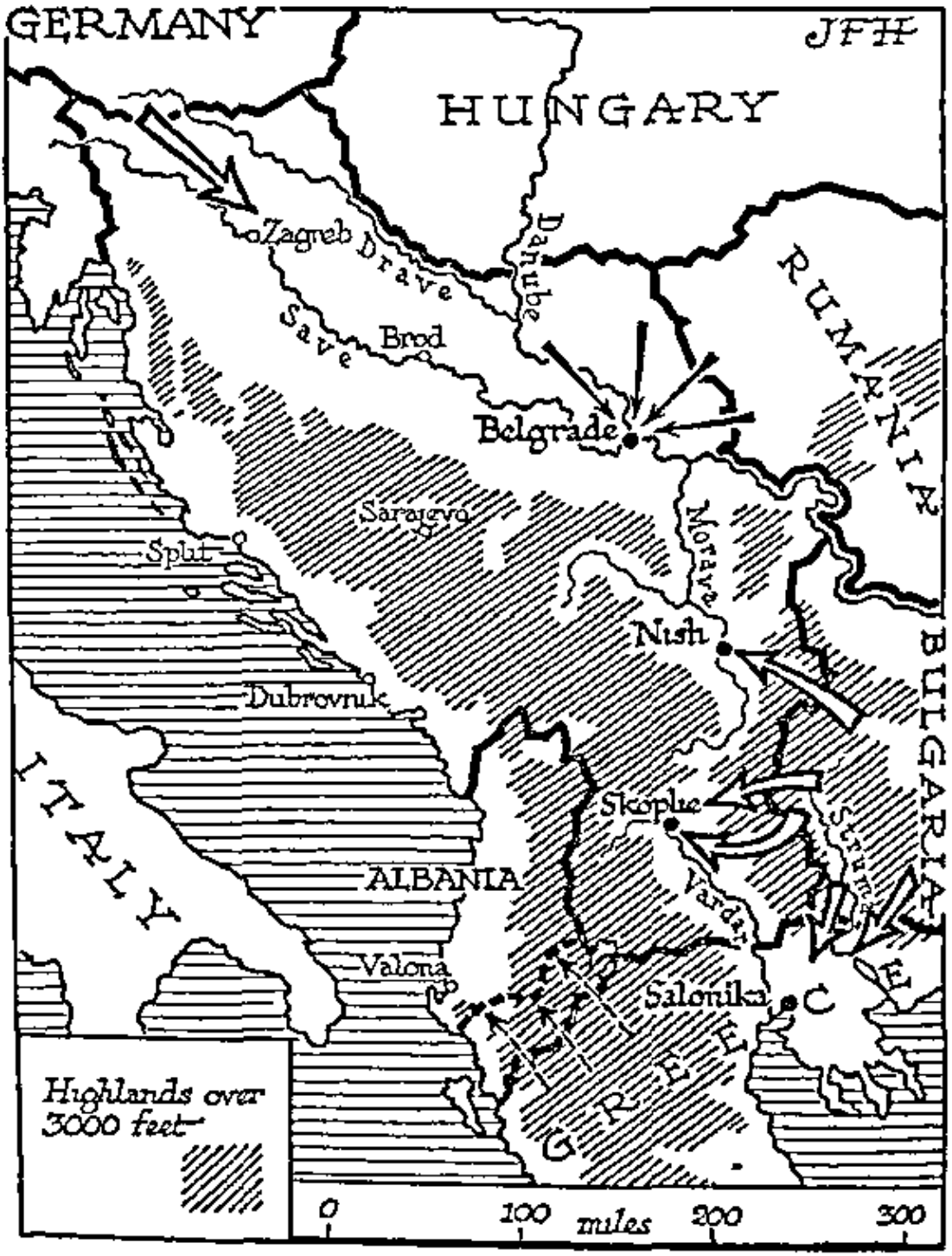

GERMANY
HUNGARY
YUGOSLAVIA
Belgrade
RUMANIA
Split
Dubrovnuk
Nish
BULGARIA
ITALY
Adriatic
ALBANIA
Salonika
GREECE
TURKEY
Aegean
Dodecanese Is
Mediterranean
CRETE
JFH

The Attack on Yugoslavia (1)—

YUGOSLAVIA was almost entirely surrounded by enemy territory The possibility of effective resistance depended on the maintenance of communications with Greece and, through Greece, with Britain Yugoslavia's own Adriatic ports of Split and Dubrovnik were threatened by Italian naval forces The one open line of communication was the railway running up from the port of Salonika (Greek) to Nish and Belgrade, and this line ran parallel with, and only a short distance away from, the Bulgarian frontier—held by enemies

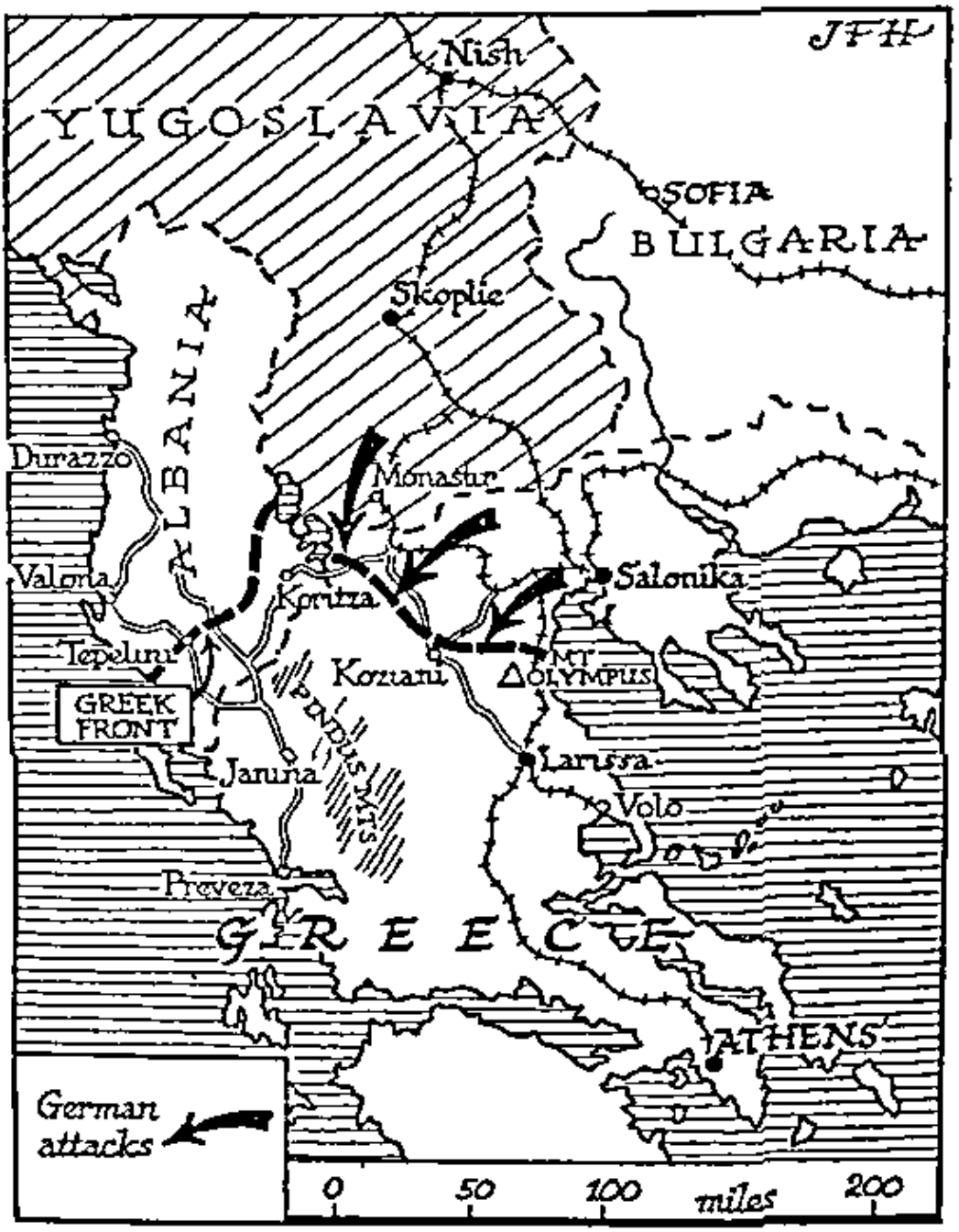
British Imperial forces were already in the Salonika area On their left was the main Greek army engaged on the Albanian front Other Greek forces held the narrow strip of eastern Greece along the southern frontier of Bulgaria, but it was obvious that these would have to be withdrawn almost as soon as an attack from Bulgaria developed

170


GERMANY
JFH
HUNGARY
Zagreb
Drave
Danube
Save
Brod
RUMANIA
Belgrade
Sarajevo
Morave
Split
Nish
Dubrovnik
ITALY
Skoplje
ALBANIA
Vardar
Valona
Saloniki
GREECE
BULGARIA
Highlands over 3000 feet
0
100
miles
200
300

The Attack on Yugoslavia (2)—

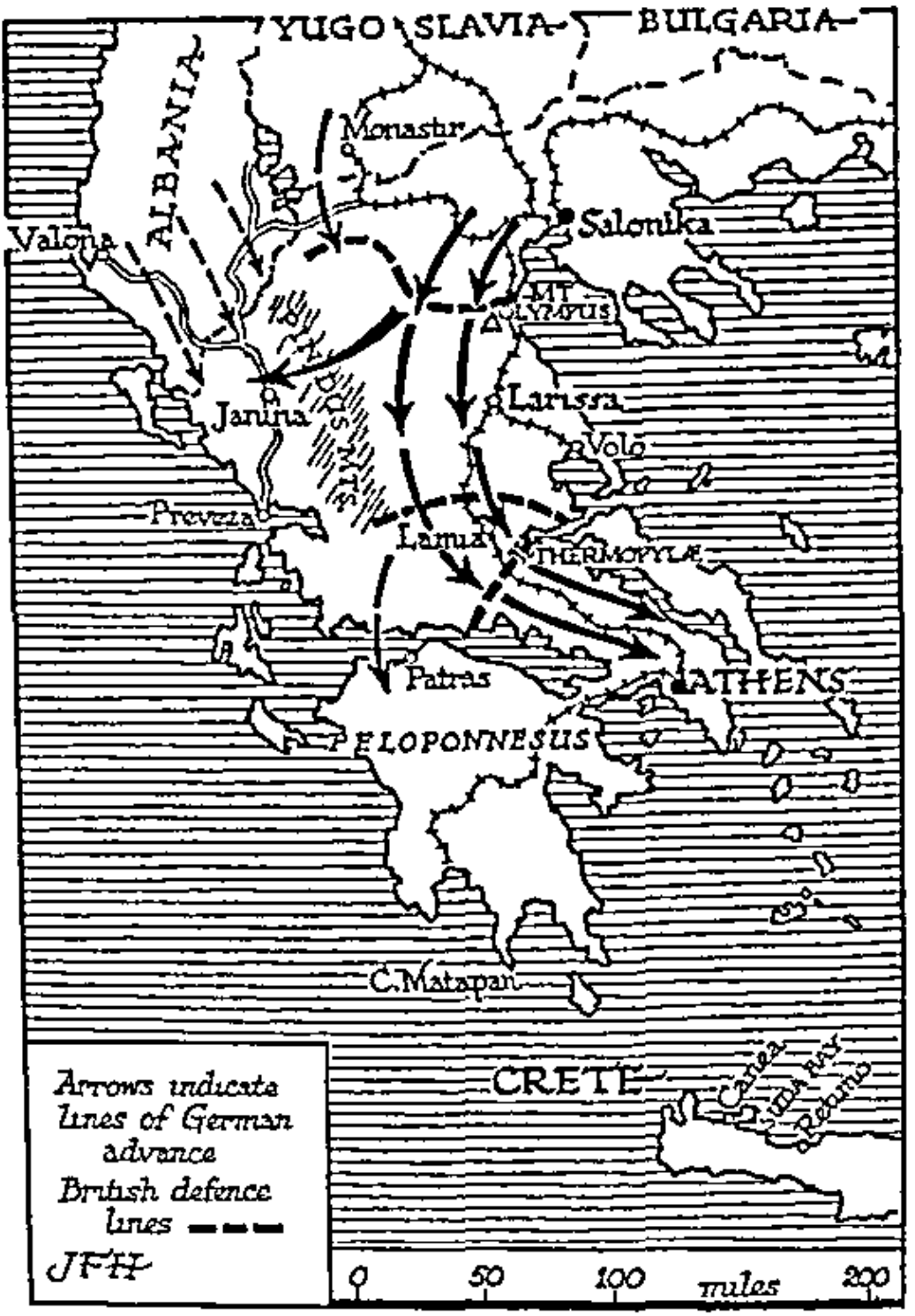
The German attack aimed at cutting off all northern and central Yugoslavia from contact with her allies in the south. Their armoured divisions struck at once down the Struma valley (in south-western Bulgaria) towards Salonika, and westward from the Bulgarian frontier towards Skoplie and Nish, in the Vardar and Morava valleys, which formed the line of communication between Salonika and Belgrade. The main concentration of the Yugoslav armies was in the lowlands of the north. If the German thrust across the southern "neck" of the country reached the Albanian frontier these armies would be isolated. The thrust was successful, and within a few days the main Yugoslav armies were forced to capitulate.

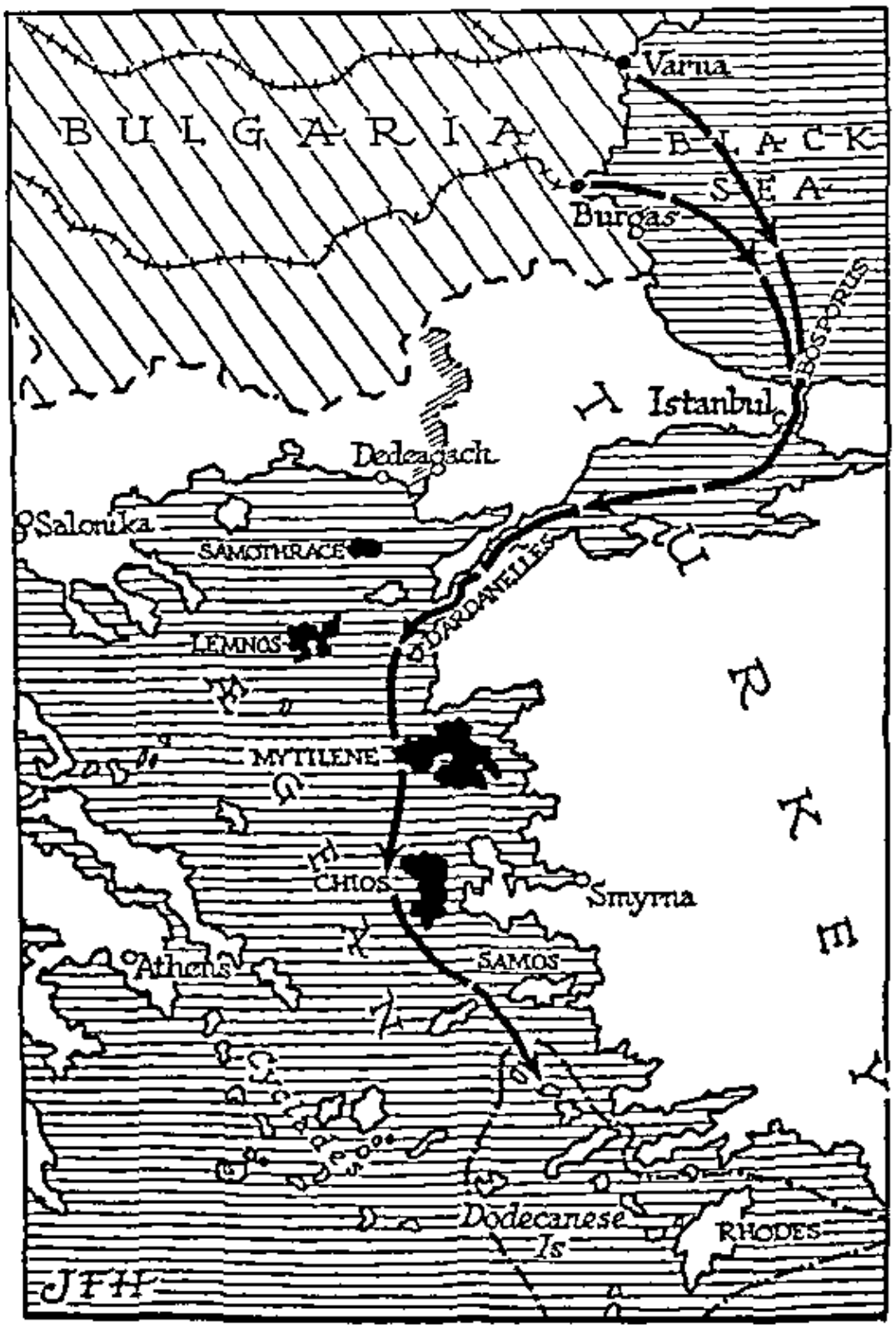

JFH
Nish
YUGOSLAVIA
SOFIA
BULGARIA
Skoplie
ALBANIA
Durazzo
Monastir
Valona
Koritza
Salonika
Tepelini
Koziani
MT OLYMPUS
GREEK FRONT
PINDUS MTS
Janina
Larissa
Volo
Preveza
GREECE
ATHENS
German attacks
0
50
100
miles
200

The Campaign in Greece (1)—

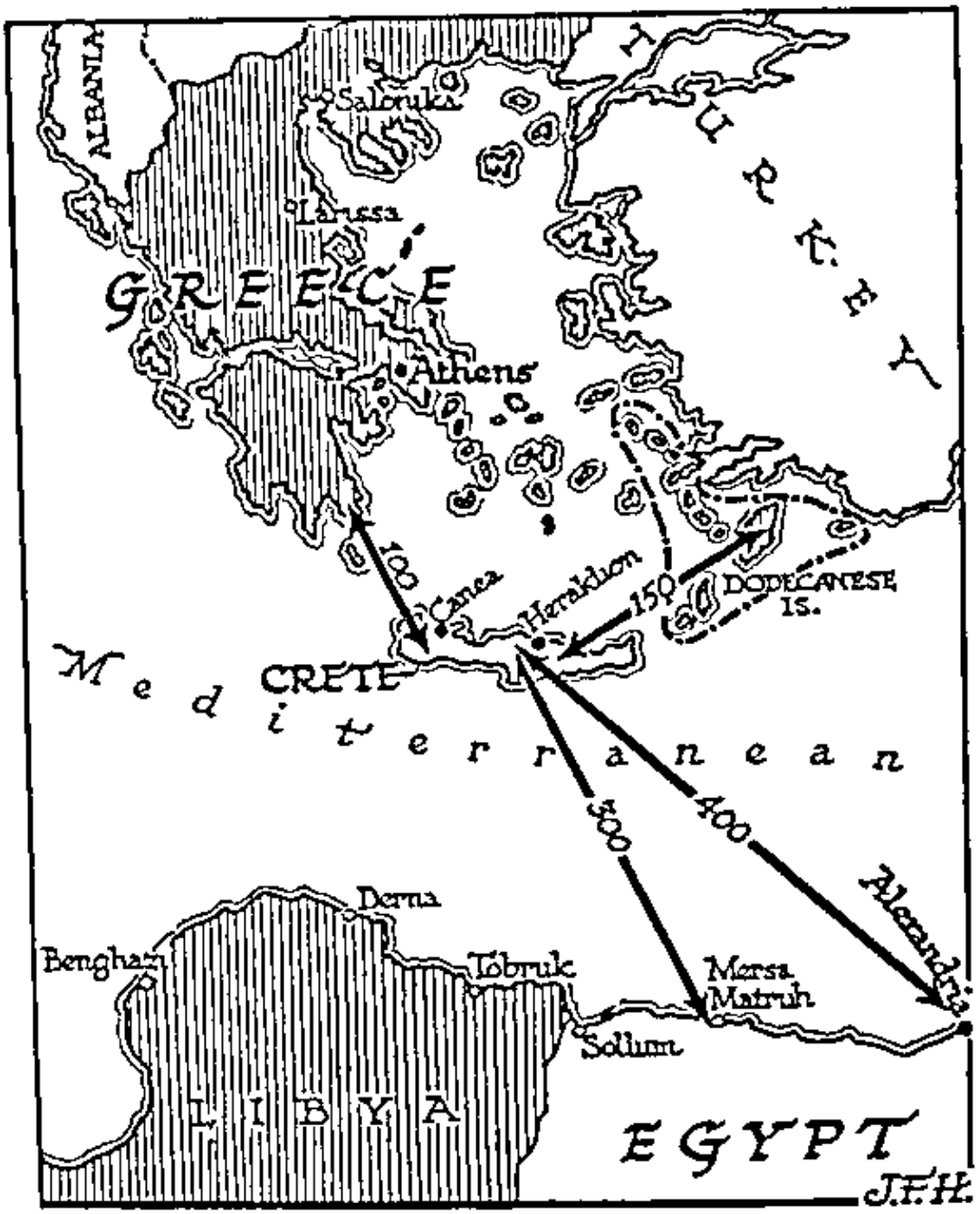
UNDER relentless enemy pressure the British-Imperial forces in Greece now took up a line running westward from Mount Olympus. The Germans—using to the full their great superiority in mechanized weapons and dive bombers, and with enormous reserves of infantry—attacked along the whole front. Their advance in the Koritza-Koziani sector compelled a rapid retirement of the whole Greek army in Albania, whose principal line of communications, through Janina, was now threatened.

173


YUGOSLAVIA
BULGARIA
ALBANIA
Monastir
Salonika
Valona
MT OLYMPUS
Janina
Larissa
Volo
Preveza
Lamia
THERMOPYLAE
Patras
ATHENS
PELOPONNESUS
C. Matapan
CRETE
Arrows indicate lines of German advance
British defence lines
0
50
100
miles
200


BULGARIA
Varna
BLACK
SEA
Burgas
BOSPORUS
Istanbul
Dedeagach
Salonika
SAMOTHRACE
DARDANELLES
LEMNOS
MYTILENE
CHIOS
Smyrna
Athens
SAMOS
Dodecanese
Is
RHODES
JFH

176


ALBANIA
Salonika
Larissa
GREECE
Athens
TURKEY
100
Canea
Heraklion
150
DODECANESE IS.
CRETE
Mediterranean
500
400
Alexandria
Derna
Benghazi
Tobruk
Mersa Matruh
Sollum
LIBYA
EGYPT
J.F.H.

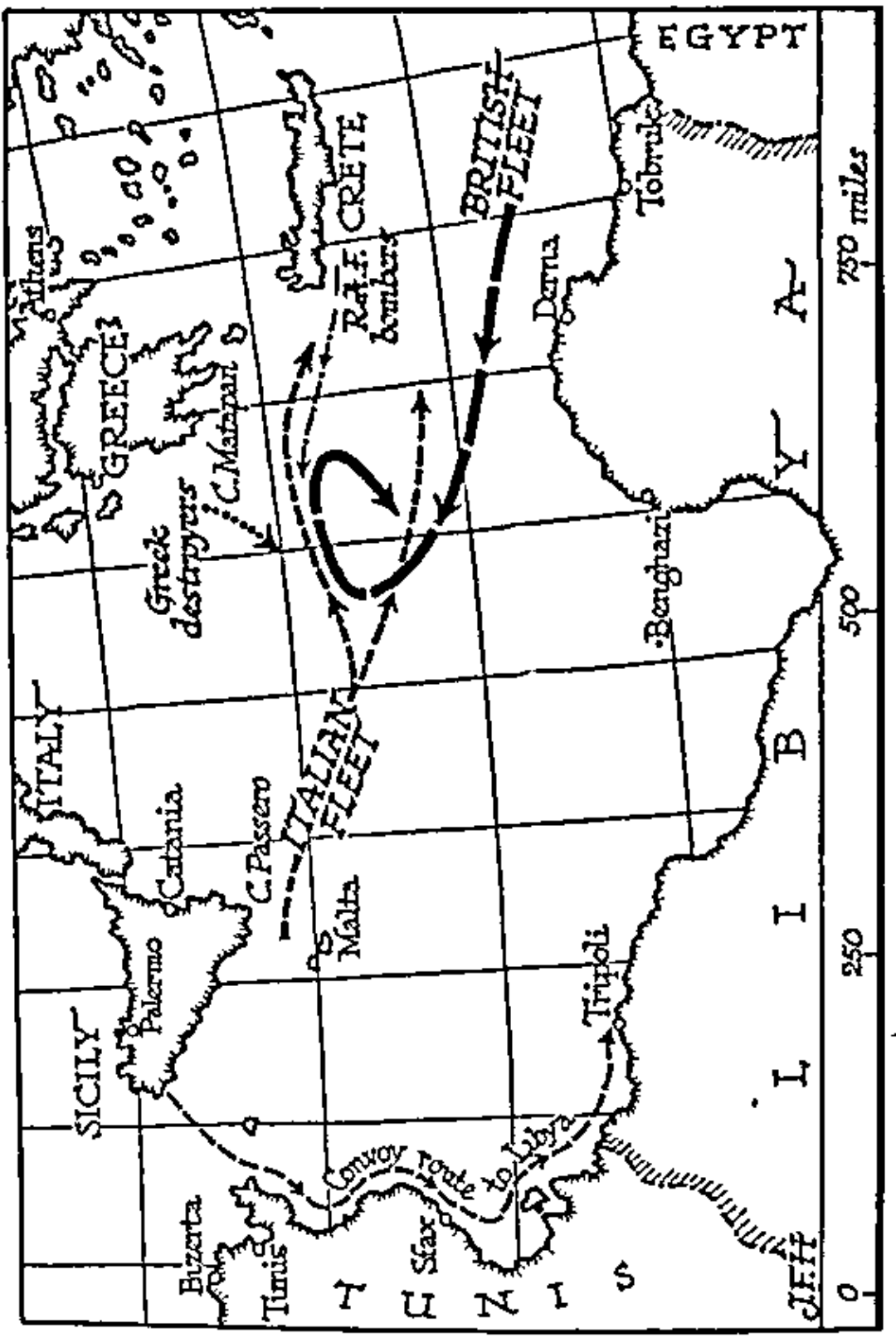
177

GREECE
Kalamata
C. Matapan
Cerigo
Milos
CYCLADES
Naxos
CRETE
Malame
Rethimo
Heraklion
Hierapetra
Sitia
Sphaka
0
50
miles
100
150

Crete (2)—

For twelve days of "the fiercest fighting of this war" the British–Imperial and Greek ground forces held out in Crete. Aided by vast numbers of dive-bombers, the Germans pushed east from the ground they had won at Maleme, and our forces holding Canea and Suda Bay were slowly forced back. The Germans also carried out intensive and persistent bombing attacks on Retimo and Heraklion, and landed bodies of men from the air at these and other points. All their attempts at sea-borne landings on any large scale were defeated by the British naval forces, which however suffered severely from air attack.

On 1st June the evacuation of the island was decided upon, and some 17,000 men were safely got away to Egypt. Further naval losses were suffered during the course of the evacuation, making a total of three cruisers and six destroyers lost during the whole operations.


EGYPT
Tobruk
Derna
Benghazi
Tripoli
Athens
GREECE
C. Matapan
Greek destroyers
CRETE
R.A.F. bombers
BRITISH FLEET
ITALIAN FLEET
ITALY
Catania
C. Passero
Malta
Palermo
SICILY
Convoy route to Libya
Bizerta
Tunis
Sfax
TUNISIA
LIBYA
Jeff
750 miles
500
250
0

The Battle of Cape Matapan—

On 28th March (a few days before the German invasion of Yugoslavia) British naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean sighted an Italian fleet consisting of battleships, cruisers, and destroyers. The Italian ships scattered, and the pursuit lasted the whole of the day. During this running fight a large Italian battleship of the "Littorio" class was repeatedly hit with torpedoes. At nightfall, when the opposing fleets were about 100 miles south-east of Cape Matapan, the southernmost point of the Greek mainland, action was joined, and three Italian 10,000-ton cruisers—the *Fiume*, *Pola*, and *Zara*—and two destroyers were sunk. R.A.F. bombers from Crete took an active part in the battle, scoring several hits on the Italian ships and so reducing their speed. The only British losses were two aircraft. Mr. Churchill described the battle as "decisively breaking the Italian naval power in the Mediterranean."

179


ITALY
Naples
SICILY
GREECE
Catania
CRETE
Malta
Sfax
Tripoli
Benghazi
Tobruk
Sirte
Agedabia
El Agheila
Gerba
Misrata
JFH
L
I
B
Y
R
EGYPT
0
250
500
750 miles

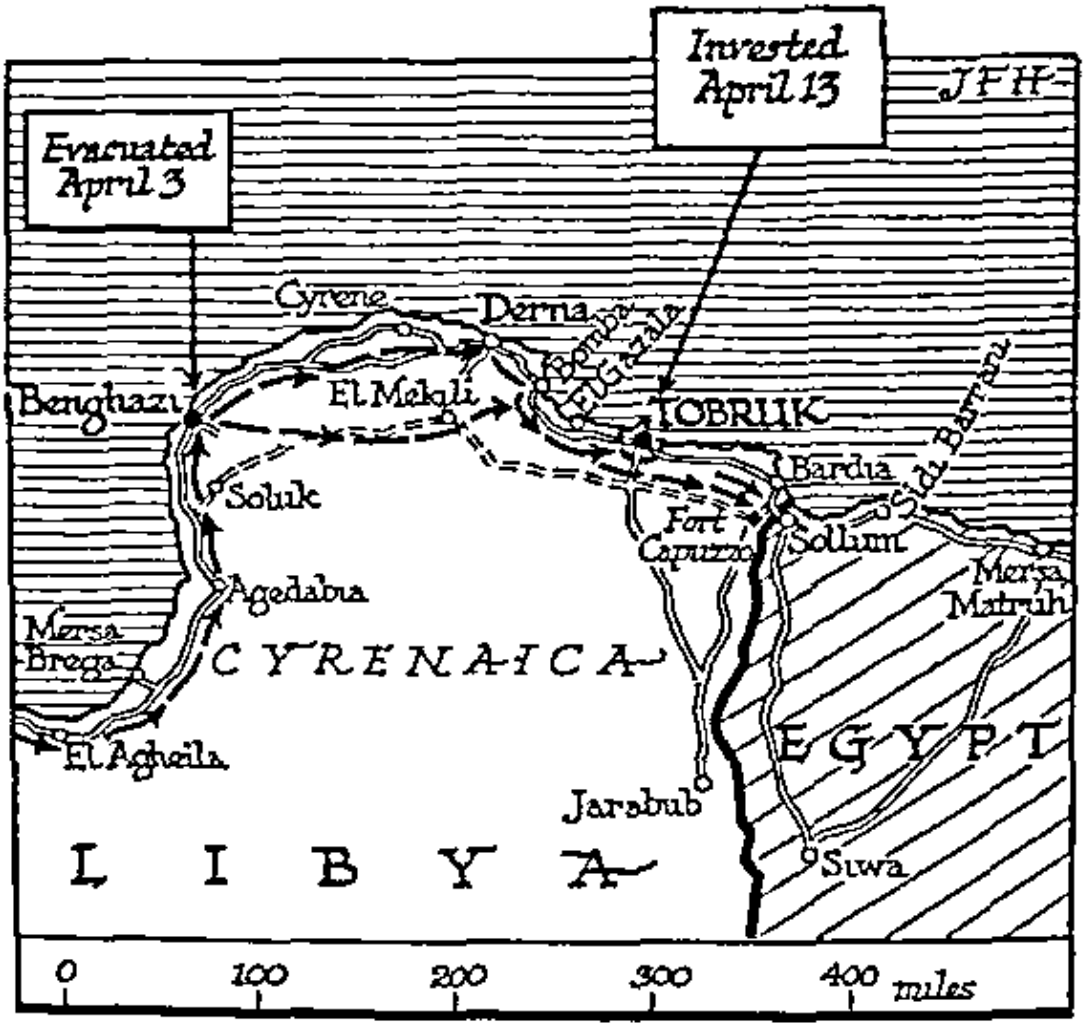
German Counter-attack in Libya (1)—

Two days after the naval battle of Cape Matapan the Germans began a *counter-offensive in Libya* It would appear that the Italian fleet had been ordered out to sea in order to divert attention either from the actual launching of this attack, or to cover the passage of important convoys of supplies

The British advance beyond Benghazi had stopped in February near El Agheila, and the forward troops were now rapidly withdrawn before an attack in force by strong German and Italian mechanized units On 4th April G H Q , Cairo, announced that we had evacuated Benghazi On the 7th the Germans were in Derna By the 13th, having " by-passed " Tobruk, they had reached Bardia, only a few miles from the Egyptian frontier

On 16th April British naval forces intercepted a *convoy of five ships, escorted by three destroyers, going* south from Sicily to Tripoli, and sank them all The British destroyer *Mohawk* was lost

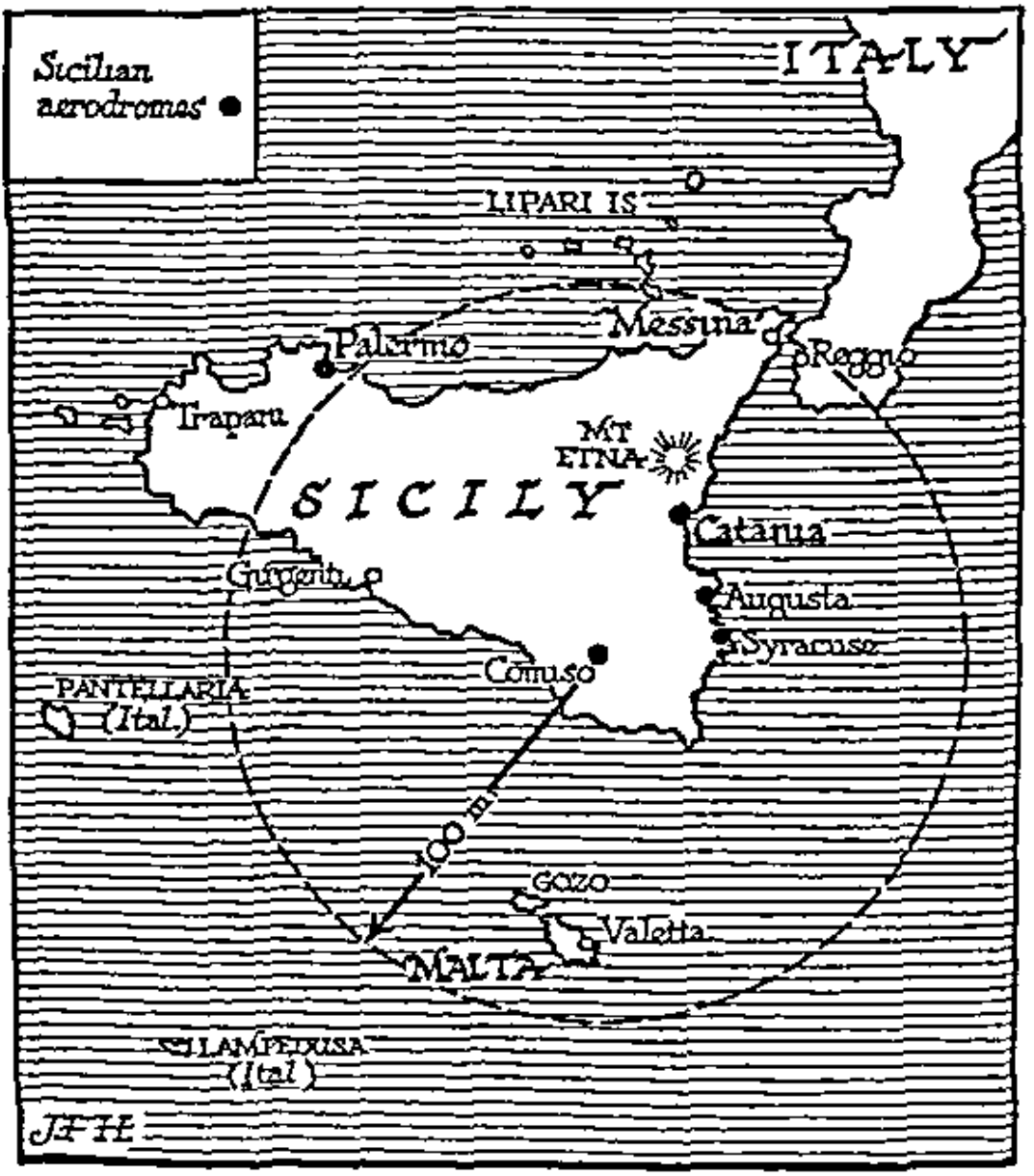
180


Invested April 13
JFH
Evacuated April 3
Cyrene
Derna
Benghazi
El Mekili
TOBRUK
Bardia
Soluk
Fort Capuzzo
Sollum
Agedabia
Mersa Brega
CYRENAICA
El Agheila
EGYPT
Jarabub
LIBYA
Siwa
0
100
200
300
400 miles

German Counter-attack in Libya (2)—

THE German offensive reached Sollum and Fort Capuzzo, on the Egyptian frontier, and there halted. A strong British garrison held Tobruk, in the rear of the enemy's advanced forces; and several German–Italian attacks during the ensuing weeks failed to dislodge it. British battleships and bombers carried out intensive bombardments of the enemy's bases at Benghazi and Tripoli; and his aerodromes at Derna, Bomba, and El Gazala were repeatedly raided. During May and June there were attacks and counter-attacks in the Sollum–Fort Capuzzo area, but the expected large-scale German offensive against Egypt did not materialize.

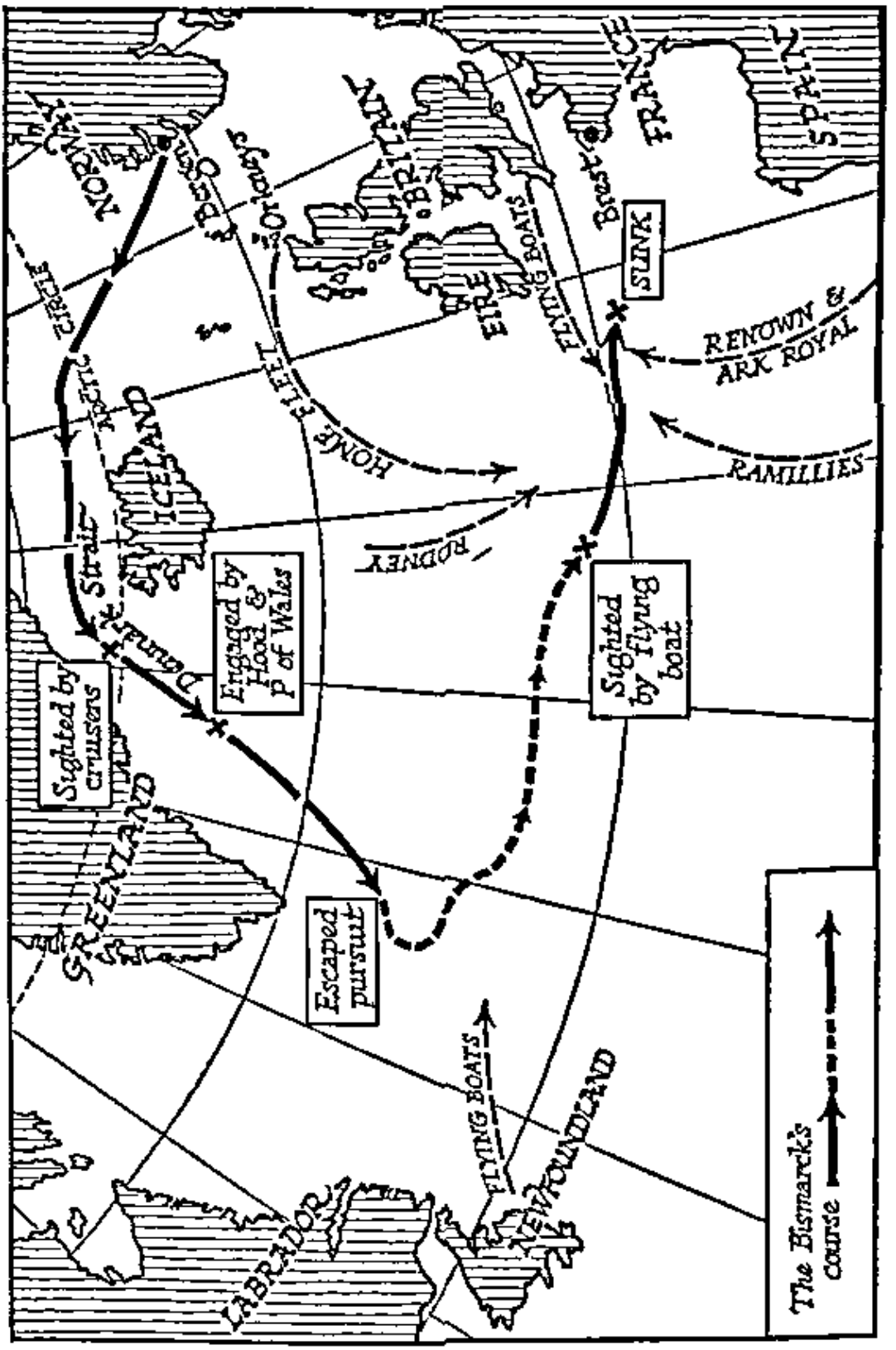
181


Sicilian aerodromes
ITALY
LIPARI IS
Messina
Palermo
Reggio
Trapani
MT ETNA
SICILY
Catania
Augusta
Syracuse
Gurgenti
Comiso
PANTELLARIA (Ital.)
100
GOZO
Valetta
MALTA
LAMPEDUSA (Ital.)

Valiant Malta—

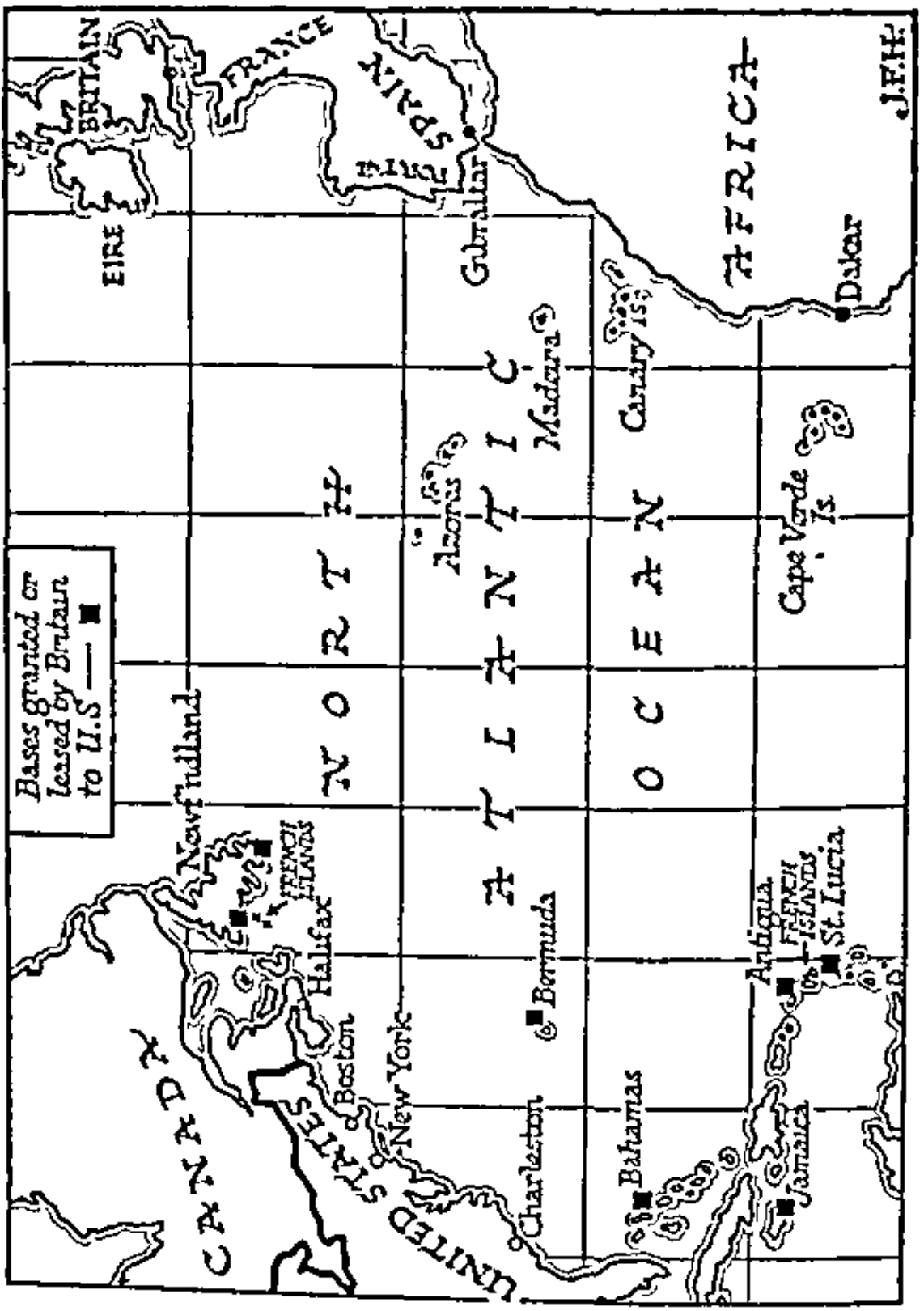
DAILY, nightly, sometimes many times during a single day or night, Malta, the British fortress in the central Mediterranean, has been raided by Italian and German bombers, mainly operating from Sicily. These are sentences taken at random from Malta *communiqués*:— "Succession of raids on evening of 7th February, bombs being dropped at many places." "11th March, attack previous day; A.A. fire probably destroyed several enemy fighters." "23rd March, raider shot down and another damaged, one civilian killed. Later, a dive-bombing attack, one raider destroyed, two badly damaged." "14th April, two alerts during day, seven previous day and night, casualties small." "23rd April, heavy raid caused serious damage in densely populated area and demolished historic buildings." "3rd June, civilian casualties in May, 21 killed, 39 seriously injured; one Ju.52 troop-carrier shot down yesterday."

The fortress still stands.


NORWAY
Bergen
Oslo
Stavanger
Aberdeen
BRITAIN
EIRE
FLYING BOATS
Brest
FRANCE
SPAIN
SUNK
RENOWN & ARK ROYAL
RAMILLIES
RODNEY
HOME FLEET
ICELAND
Denmark Strait
Sighted by cruisers
Engaged by Hood & P of Wales
Sighted by flying boat
Escaped pursuit
GREENLAND
FLYING BOATS
NEWFOUNDLAND
LABRADOR
The Bismarck's course

The sinking of the "Bismarck"—

WHILE the war in the eastern Mediterranean was focussed now in one area, now in another, the unceasing Battle of the Atlantic went on; and the men of the British merchant service proved their unflinching heroism, not once but every day, as the months went by. But this Atlantic struggle flared into high drama during the last week in May, when the German battleship *Bismarck*, with an accompanying cruiser *Prinz Eugen*, was espied leaving Bergen on her maiden voyage. Two British cruisers steamed at once to watch Denmark Strait, between Greenland and Iceland. On 24th May the German ships were met and engaged by the *Hood* and the *Prince of Wales*. The former was sunk and the latter hit. The *Bismarck* steamed on south-west. Early on the morning of the 25th she eluded her pursuers and was lost to sight in fog. She was discovered again a day later, a thousand miles to the south-east, by a Catalina flying-boat. Heavy British ships of the Home Fleet, from Gibraltar and from convoy work in the Atlantic, converged upon her. She was sunk 400 miles from Brest. The *Prinz Eugen* made her escape, and presumably reached that port.

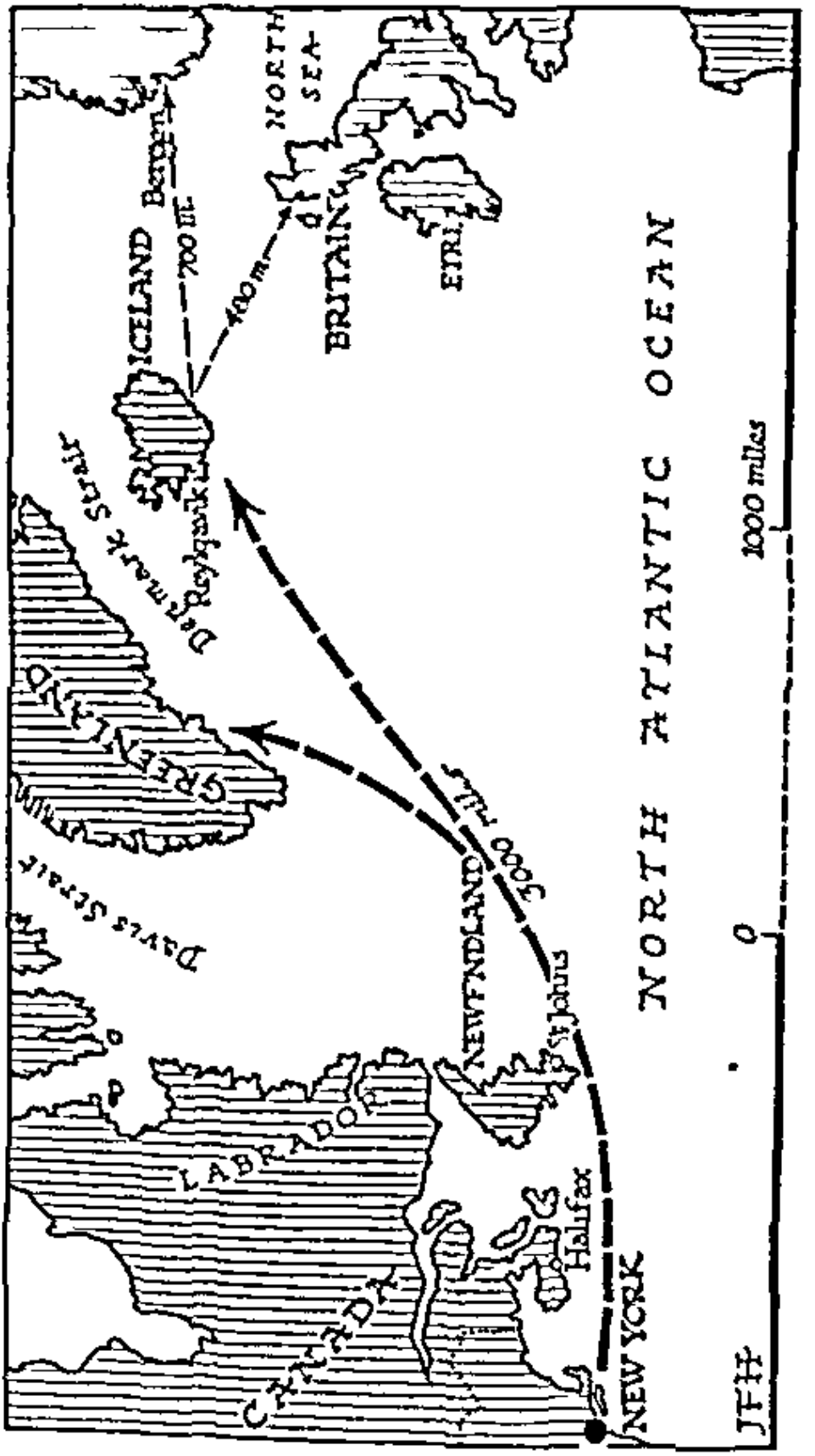

Bases granted or leased by Britain to U.S. — ■
BRITAIN
EIRE
FRANCE
SPAIN
Gibraltar
Azores
Madeira
Canary Is.
Dakar
AFRICA
Cape Verde Is.
NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
Newfoundland
FRENCH ISLANDS
Halifax
Boston
New York
Bermuda
Charleston
Bahamas
Antigua
FRENCH ISLANDS
St. Lucia
Jamaica
CANADA
UNITED STATES
J.F.H.

"Western Hemisphere Defence" (1)—

THE war in the Atlantic continued to bring home to the American people a consciousness of their own danger, and on 27th May President Roosevelt proclaimed a state of unlimited national emergency. In his speech on this occasion he warned the Axis Powers that they must count on prompt American action if they assumed control of any of the Atlantic bases which could be held to threaten American security; and he specifically mentioned "the Atlantic fortress of Dakar and the island outposts of the New World—the Azores and the Cape Verde Islands." He also announced an extension and strengthening of the patrol system.

A few days earlier he had broadcast to the French people, condemning the "collaboration" policy of the Vichy Government; and Washington was busy with rumours that an early occupation might be expected of the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon (near Newfoundland), and Guadeloupe and Martinique (in the West indies).

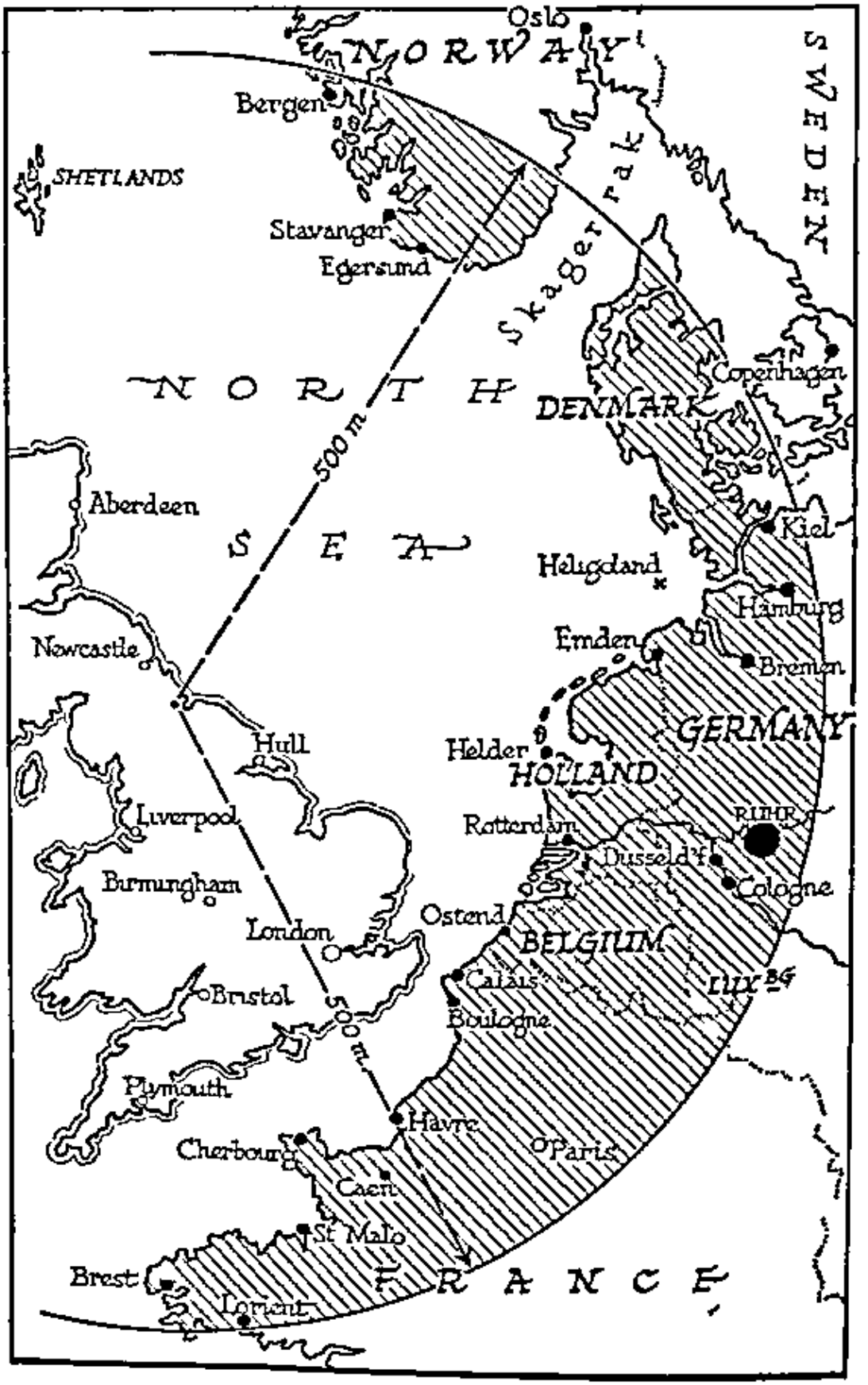
184


NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
ICELAND
BRITAIN
NORTH SEA
700 m
400 m
3000 miles
1000 miles
0
Halifax
St John's
NEW YORK
LABRADOR
GREENLAND
Davis Strait
Denmark Strait

"Western Hemisphere Defence" (2)—

ALREADY, on 10th April, President Roosevelt had signed an agreement with the Danish Minister in Washington by which the United States took Greenland (a Danish colony) under its protection.

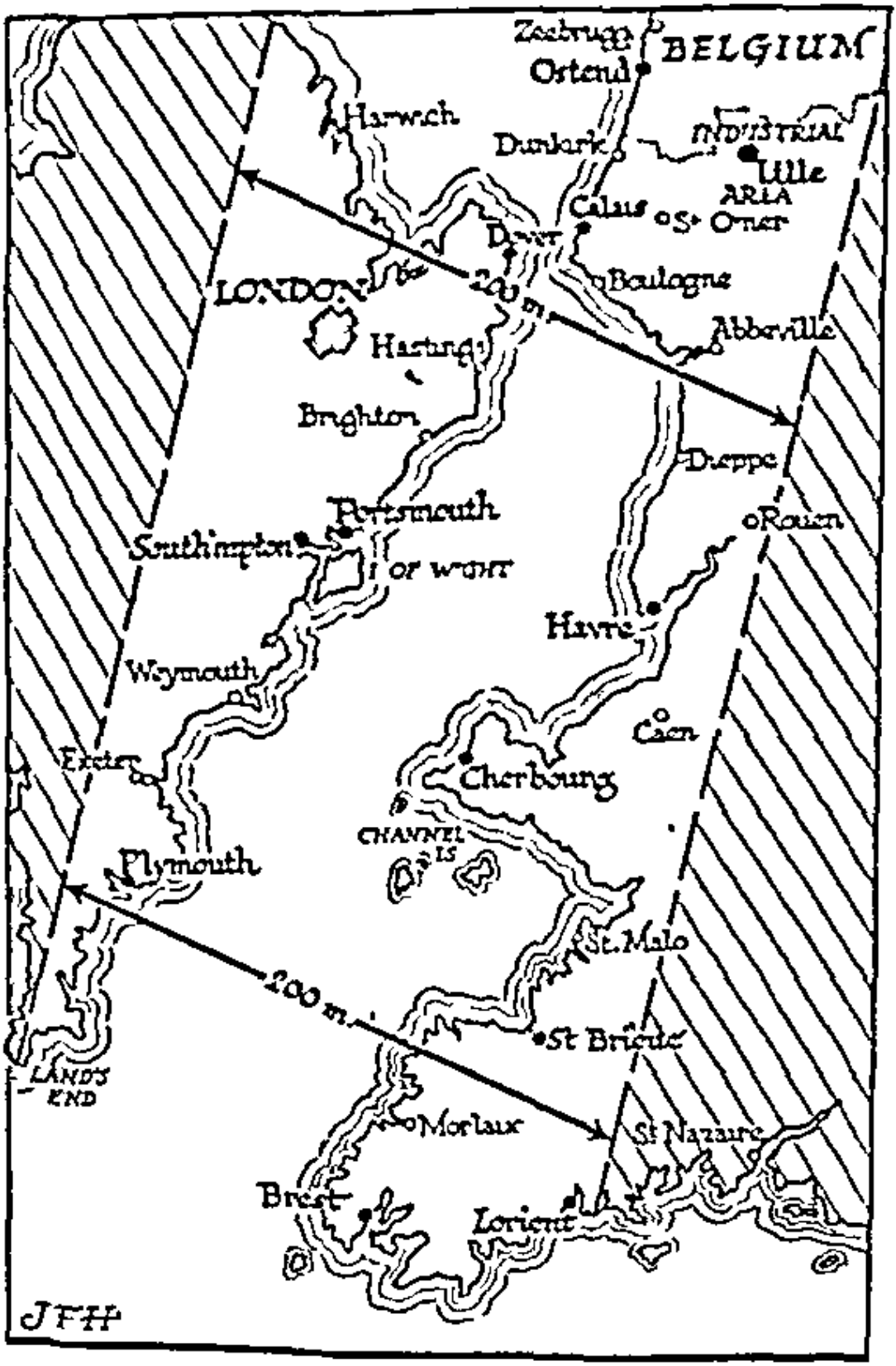
On 7th July, in a special message to Congress, the President announced that American naval forces had arrived in Iceland, and would eventually take the place of the British troops already there. In a letter to Iceland's Prime Minister, replying to a request that the United States should undertake the defence of that country, Mr. Roosevelt gave full recognition of Iceland's status "as an absolutely free and sovereign state," and promised that all U.S. forces would be immediately withdrawn on the conclusion of the war.


Oslo
NORWAY
SWEDEN
Bergen
SHETLANDS
Stavanger
Egersund
Skagerrak
Copenhagen
NORTH
DENMARK
500 m
Aberdeen
SEA
Kiel
Heligoland
Hamburg
Emden
Newcastle
Bremen
GERMANY
Hull
Helder
HOLLAND
Liverpool
Rotterdam
RUHR
Düsseld'f
Birmingham
Cologne
Ostend
London
BELGIUM
Calais
LUX.
Bristol
Boulogne
500 m
Plymouth
Havre
Cherbourg
Paris
Caen
St Malo
Brest
FRANCE
Lorient

"Aircraft of Bomber Command . . ."—

NIGHTLY—and, when the summer months came, by day also—R A F bombers carried on their unceasing attacks on aerodromes, industrial and power plants, railway centres, ports, and docks in western Germany, and in the occupied territories in Norway, Holland, Belgium, and northern France Enemy coastal shipping, from southern Norway down to the Channel, was unremittingly harried From early in June these attacks were greatly intensified, the main weight of the bombing being directed against the Ruhr and Rhineland industrial areas and the ports and docks of Germany's north western coastline It was officially announced that the total bombs dropped during these raids, was at least three times as great as in the raids of autumn, 1940

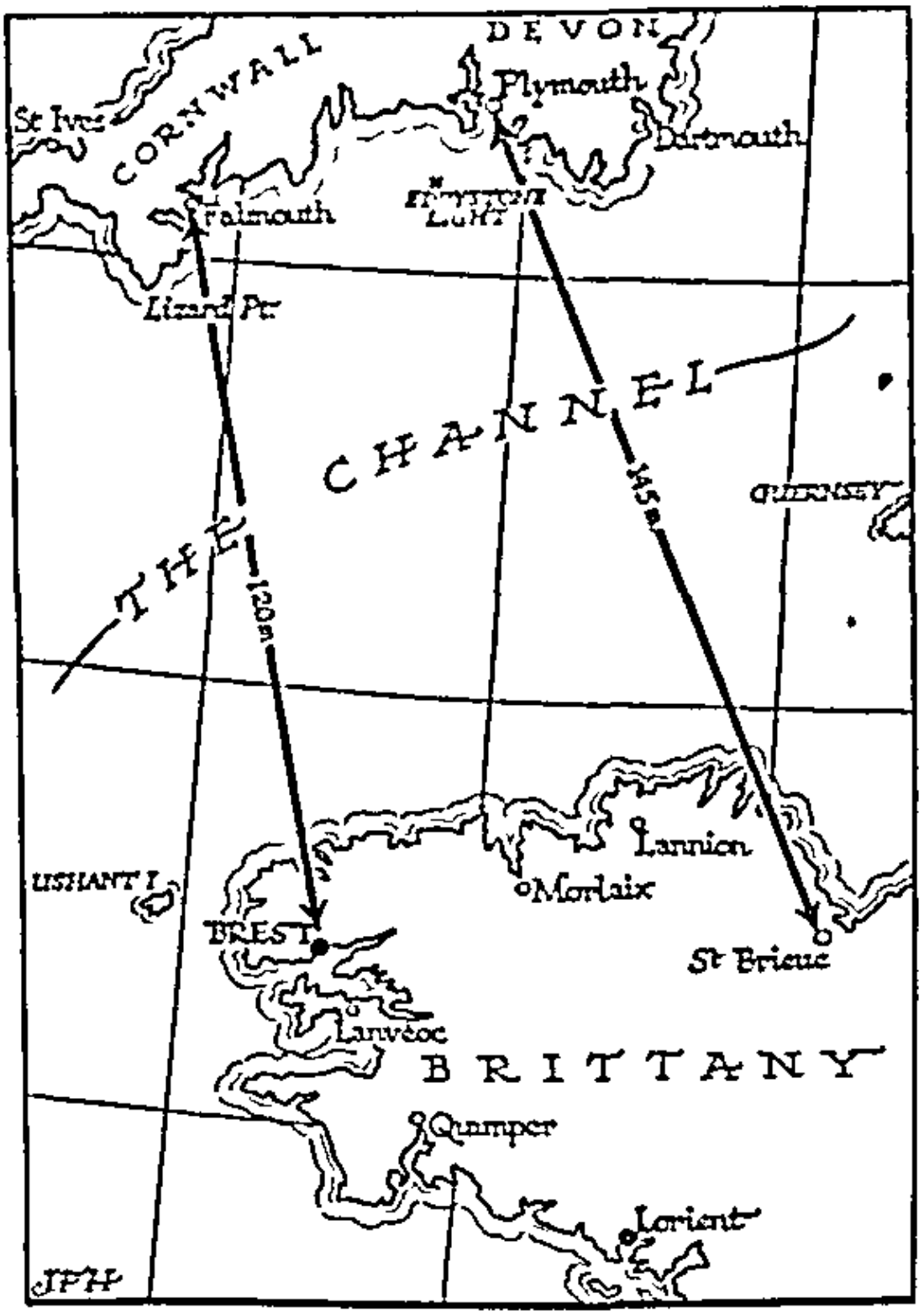
188


Zeebrugge
BELGIUM
Ostend
Harwich
Dunkerk
INDUSTRIAL
Lille
ARIA
Calais
St Omer
Dover
LONDON
200 m
Boulogne
Abbeville
Hastings
Brighton
Dieppe
Portsmouth
Southampton
Rouen
Isle of Wight
Havre
Weymouth
Caen
Exeter
Cherbourg
CHANNEL IS
Plymouth
St. Malo
200 m
St Brieuc
LANDS END
Morlaix
St Nazaire
Brest
Lorient
JFH

The R A F. sweeps nel—

During June a series of daylight sweeps over the Channel and northern France was carried out by the R A F. These attacks were made in force, and there is little doubt that in some of them as many machines were engaged as the Luftwaffe ever brought into action in the mass raids on this country. Military and industrial targets of all kinds in the Calais–Boulogne–Lille region were attacked. The enemy lost heavily in machines, 135 being shot down in nine raids between 16th and 25th June, against a British loss of 34 fighters and 6 bombers.

189

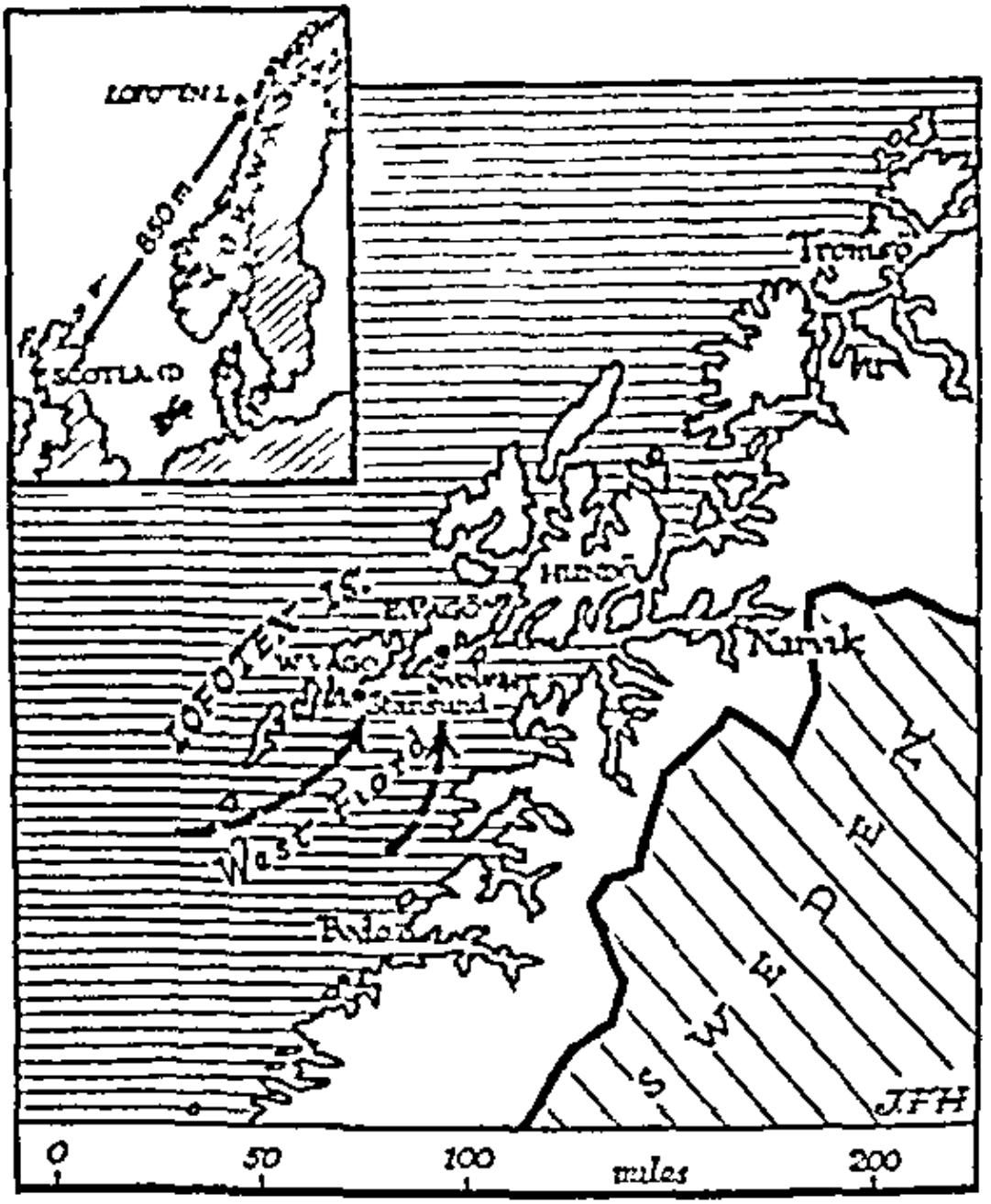

DEVON
CORNWALL
Plymouth
St Ives
Dartmouth
Falmouth
EDDYSTONE LIGHT
Lizard Pt
CHANNEL
145 m
GUERNSEY
THE
120 m
Lannion
Morlaix
USHANT I
BREST
St Brieuc
Lanvéoc
BRITTANY
Quimper
Lorient
JPH

German Warships hide in Brest—

THE German battle-cruisers *Gneisenau* and *Scharnhorst*, each of which had done some raiding in the open Atlantic, took refuge in Brest harbour The docks and harbour of the port were attacked again and again by the R A F , both enemy warships being straddled many times by heavy bombs In a raid on 5th May " direct hits on and near the warships " were reported The *Bismarck's* accompanying ship, the *Prinz Eugen*, got into Brest after escaping her pursuers, and on 11th June was the object of a special attack

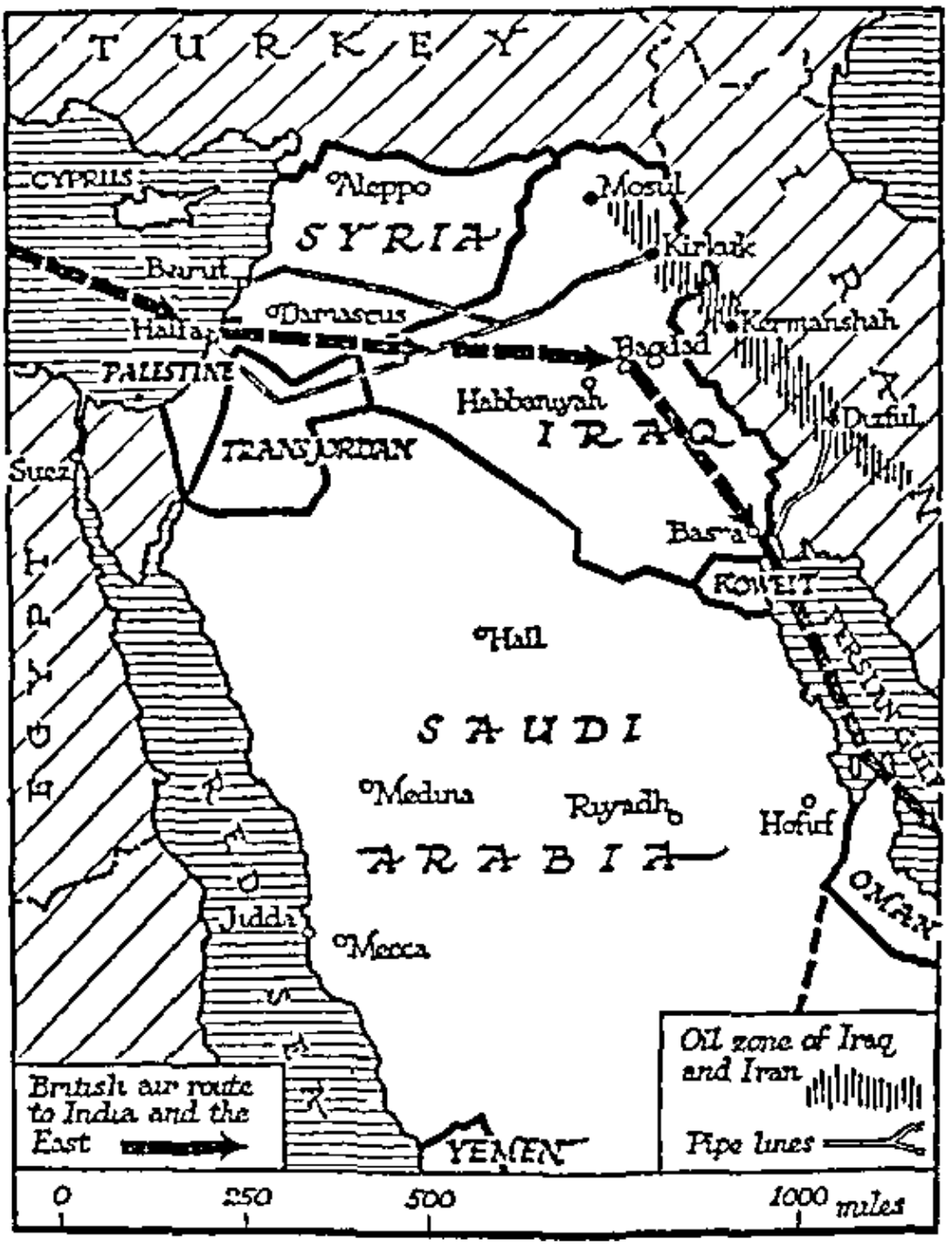
Enemy shipping off Brest and Ushant was constantly attacked by airships of the Coastal Command The aerodromes at Morlaix, Lannion, and St Brieuc, and the docks at Lorient, were also the targets of many attacks

190



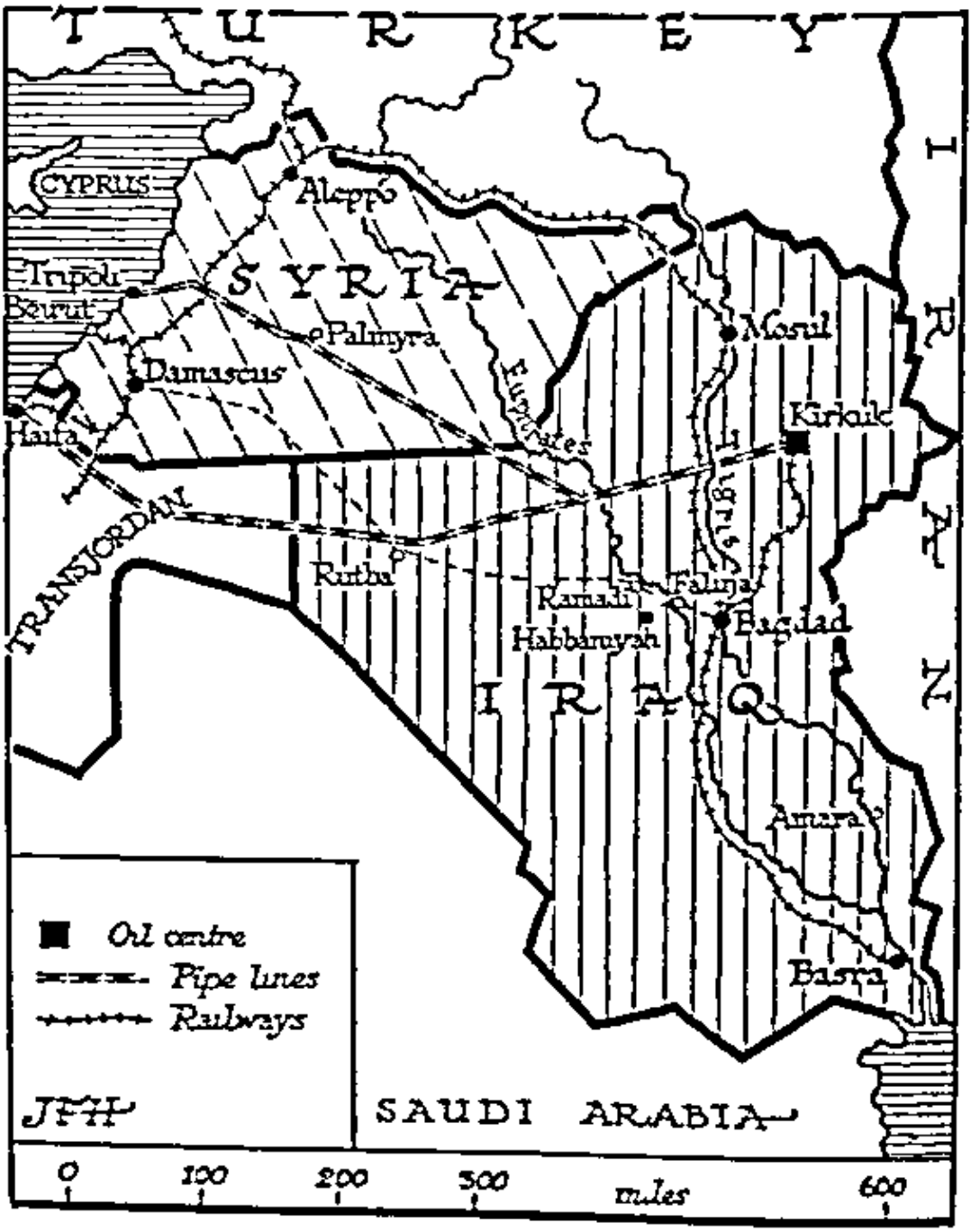
The Raid on the Lofoten Islands—

Light British naval forces carried through a highly successful raid on the Lofoten Islands (northern Norway) on 4th March. Fish-oil factories at Svolvaer and on the island of West Vago, which were being worked for Germany, were destroyed. Nine German merchant ships, one a vessel of 10,000 tons, were sunk, and 215 Germans and a few local "Quislings" captured. Some 300 Norwegian patriots were also brought back to Britain by the expedition.


TURKEY
CYPRUS
Aleppo
SYRIA
Mosul
Kirkuk
Beirut
Haifa
Damascus
Kermanshah
Baghdad
PALESTINE
Habbaniyah
IRAQ
Dezful
TRANSJORDAN
Suez
Basra
KUWEIT
Hail
SAUDI
Medina
Riyadh
Hofuf
ARABIA
OMAN
Jidda
Mecca
YEMEN
British air route to India and the East
Oil zone of Iraq and Iran
Pipe lines
0
250
500
1000 miles

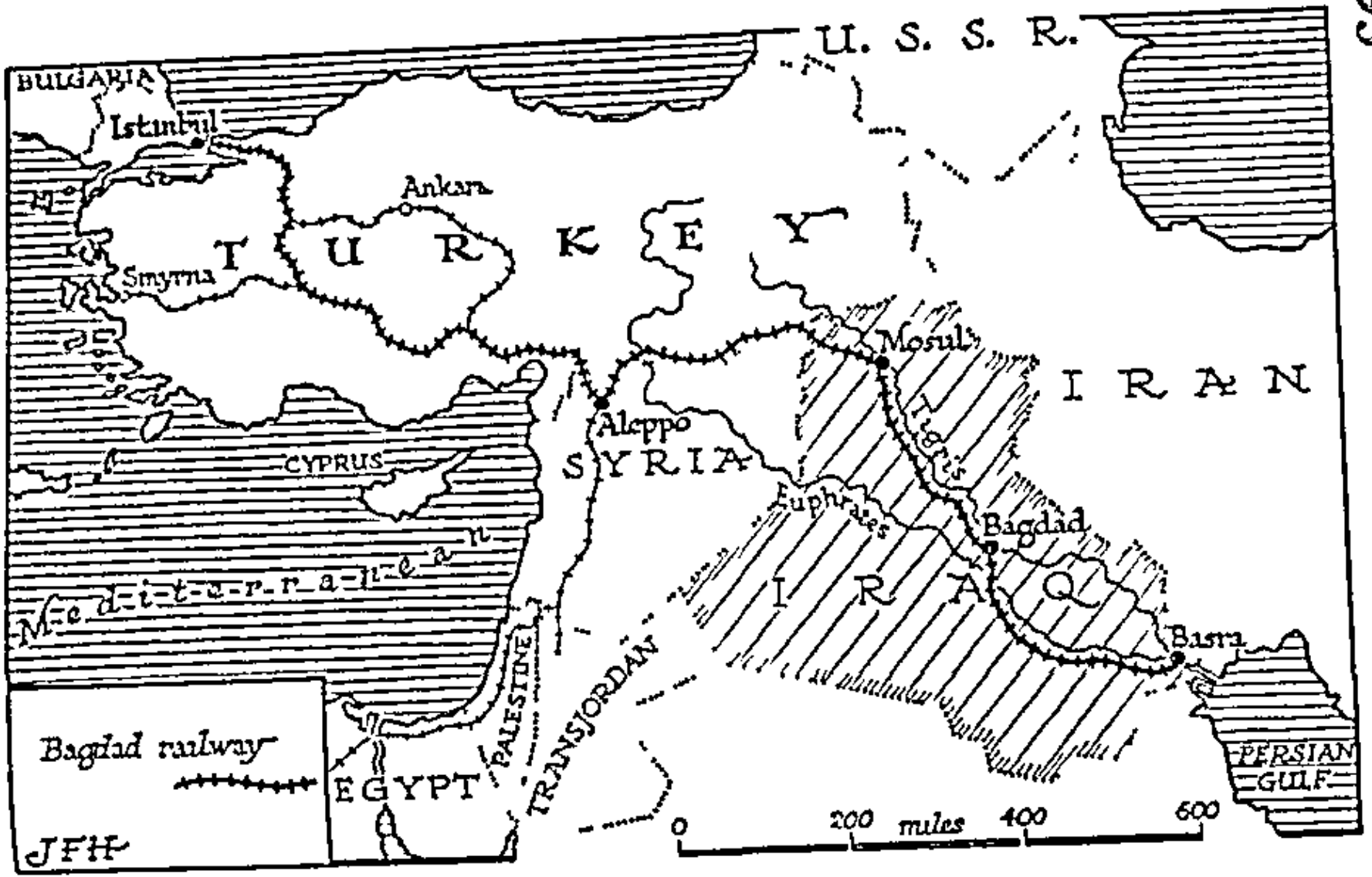
Axis Plots in Iraq (1)—

EARLY in April a military *coup d'état* in Iraq placed at the head of the government Sayid Rashid Ali, a former Prime Minister known for his pronounced Axis sympathies Acting within treaty rights, Britain at once landed troops at Basra for the purpose of safeguarding Imperial communications Rashid Ali s government declared their full intention of maintaining friendly relations with Britain , but when a few days later further troops arrived at Basra they were refused permission to land At the same time there were strong concentrations of Iraqi troops around the R A F aerodrome at Habbaniyah, west of Bagdad


TURKEY
CYPRUS
Aleppo
Tripoli
Beirut
SYRIA
Palmyra
Damascus
Haifa
TRANSJORDAN
Euphrates
Mosul
Kirkuk
Tigris
Rutba
Ramadi
Falluja
Habbaniyah
Baghdad
IRAQ
IRAN
Amara
Basra
Oil centre
Pipe lines
Railways
SAUDI ARABIA
0
100
200
300
miles
600

Axis Plots in Iraq (2)—

On 2nd May the Iraqi troops opened fire on the British aerodrome and cantonments at Habbaniyah. On the 4th the British seized the docks and airport of Basra, and the second contingent of troops moved northward towards Bagdad. The fighting at Habbaniyah soon resulted in the dispersal of the Iraqis, and British forces proceeded to occupy Faluja, controlling an important Euphrates crossing, and Rutba, 200 miles to the west, on the pipeline near the Transjordan frontier. The R.A F. was meantime active in raiding rebel positions and aerodromes, on many of which German 'planes were found. On 1st June British troops entered Bagdad, and on the 4th occupied Mosul and Kirkuk. The revolt was over. Rashid Ali and other leaders fled over the frontier into Iran, and the Regent, Emir Abdul Ilah, returned to the capital.


U. S. S. R.
BULGARIA
Istanbul
Ankara
TURKEY
Smyrna
Mosul
IRAN
Aleppo
SYRIA
CYPRUS
Euphrates
Tigris
Bagdad
IRAQ
Basra
Mediterranean
TRANSJORDAN
PALESTINE
EGYPT
PERSIAN GULF
Bagdad railway
0 200 miles 400 600
JFH

Turkey's "Back Door"—

THE penetration of Bulgaria had brought Germany to the Turkish frontier in Europe, and within a few miles of the Straits. Her conquest of Greece gave her control of the Greek islands commanding Turkey's Ægean coast-line (see next map). German domination in Syria and Iraq would have isolated Turkey completely, except for her sea and land communication with Soviet Russia to the north. In Syria the Vichy authorities were permitting the German occupation of aerodromes, and arms and materials were being sent from Syria to the Iraqi rebels. During the course of the campaign in Iraq the British Government called the attention of the Turkish Government to the fact that these were being dispatched from Aleppo via the Bagdad railway, which runs through Turkish territory eastward from that town towards Mosul. In reply the Turkish Government let it be understood that they were anxious to avoid doing anything likely to result in Iraq barring the sending of arms to Turkey by the Basra–Mosul route.

U. S. S. R
Black Sea
RUMANIA
BULGARIA
YS
GREECE
TURKEY
IRAN
IRAQ
SYRIA
CYPRUS
CRETE
DODECANESE
Mediterranean
Batum
Samsun
Erzurum
Suvas
Erzgl
Ankara
Kaysareh
Konieh
Smyrna
Diarbekr
Mosul
Baghdad
Aleppo
Damascus
Axis occupied territories

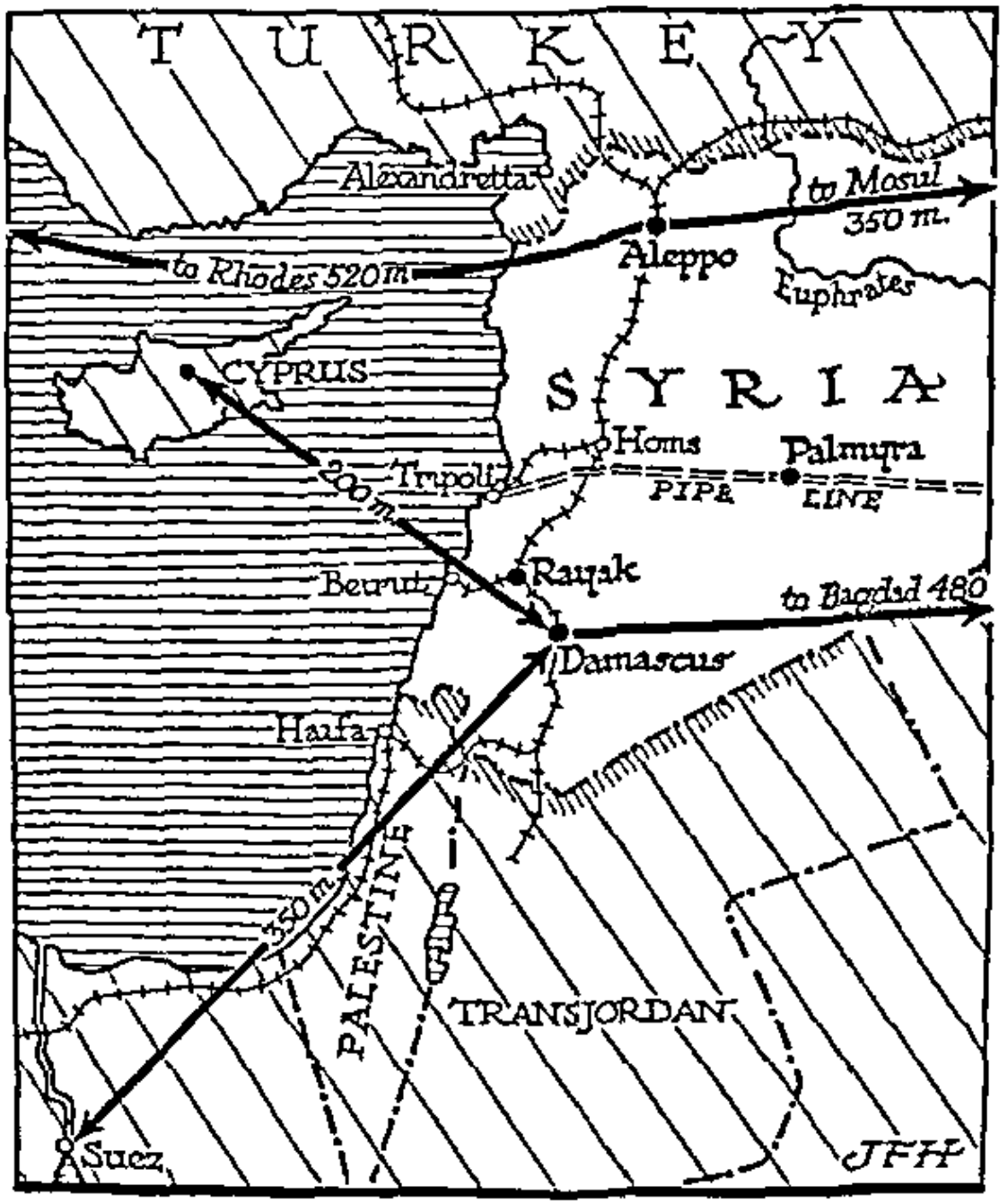
Turkey signs a German Pact—

With the full weight of the German war machine at her front gates, and the safety of her communications south and south east rendered uncertain by Vichy collaboration with the Axis in Syria and Axis inspired revolt in Iraq, Turkey signed a Treaty of Friendship with Germany on 18th June Each country pledged itself to respect the "integrity and inviolability" of the other's national territory, and to abstain from "any measures, direct or indirect, aimed at its treaty partner" Hitler, as was quickly apparent, had thus secured his southern flank in readiness for his forthcoming attack on the U S S R

TURKEY
IRAQ
SYRIA
EGYPT
Mosul
Kirkuk
Tigris
Euphrates
Baghdad
Railways
Pipe lines
J.F.H.
Ankara
CYPRUS
Tripoli
Damascus
Haifa
PALESTINE
TRANSJORDAN
Port Said
SUEZ
Cairo
Nile
Mersa Matruh
Sollum
DODECANESE IS.
CRETE
Mediterranean
0
250
500
750
miles

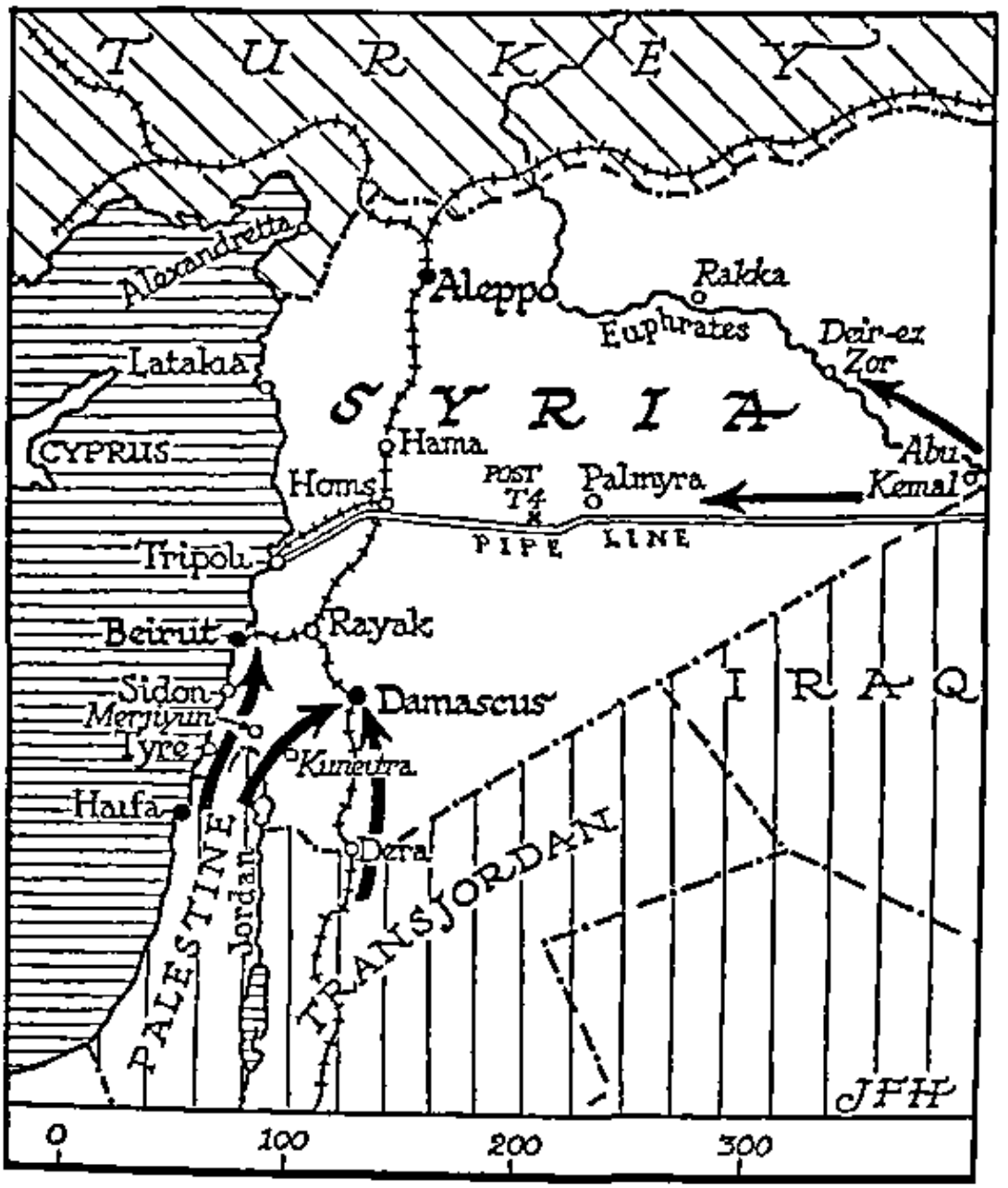
The Threat to Suez—

THE German conquest of Crete and the Ægean islands, and their offensive in Libya against the Egyptian frontier at Sollum, were immediately followed by demands on the Vichy authorities for the use by German aircraft of Syrian aerodromes, and Vichy's prompt acquiescence. This infiltration into Syria completed a three-fold threat to Suez. On 27th May (a few days before the collapse of the rebellion in Iraq) the British Government announced that Syria was henceforth to be regarded as enemy-occupied territory.


TURKEY
Alexandretta
to Mosul
350 m.
Aleppo
to Rhodes 520 m
Euphrates
CYPRUS
SYRIA
Homs
Palmyra
Tripoli
PIPE LINE
Beirut
Rayak
to Baqdad 480
Damascus
Haifa
350 m
PALESTINE
TRANSJORDAN
Suez
JFH

Britain acts in Syria (1)—

IMMEDIATELY after the collapse of France and the signing of the armistice with Germany in July 1940, the British Government had declared that they would not allow Syria to be used as a base of attack by the Axis powers. Now, in view of the Vichy Government's acquiescence in measures which would inevitably bring Syria under full German control, Britain decided to take action. The R.A.F. raided aerodromes at Rayak, Palmyra, and Damascus; and scattered leaflets, explaining to the population that the Vichy authorities were selling Syria's independence, which had now been guaranteed both by the British Government and by General Catroux, speaking for the Free French. By the first week in June, according to Turkish reports, between 150 and 200 German aircraft were in Syria, many of them having flown over Turkish territory to get there; and there were also considerable numbers of German "tourists," specialists, and technicians.

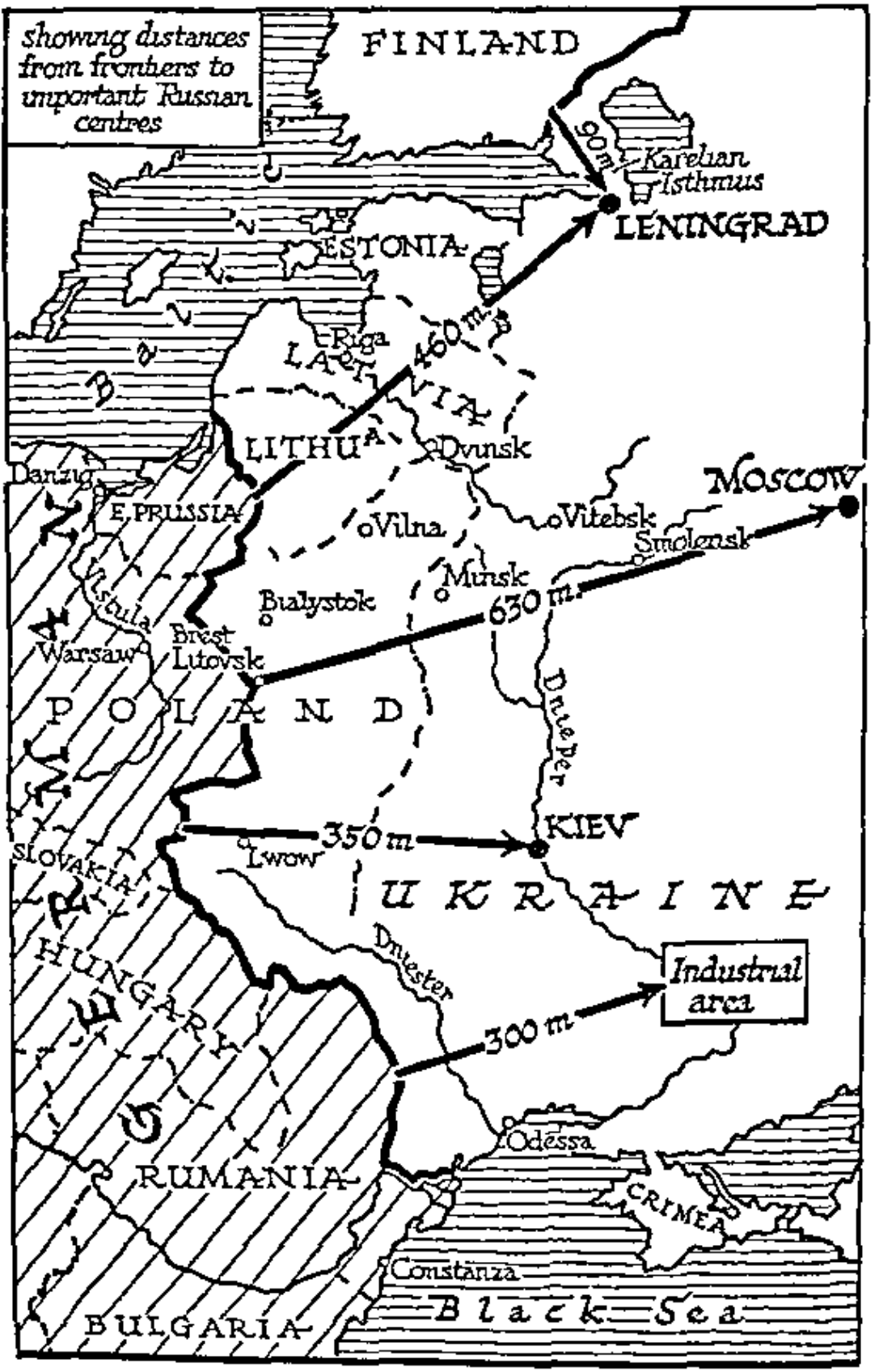

TURKEY
Alexandretta
Aleppo
Rakka
Euphrates
Deir-ez Zor
Latakia
SYRIA
CYPRUS
Hama
Homs
POST T4
Palmyra
Abu Kemal
PIPE LINE
Tripoli
Beirut
Rayak
Sidon
Merjayun
Tyre
Damascus
IRAQ
Kuneitra
Haifa
Dera
PALESTINE
Jordan
TRANSJORDAN
JFH
0
100
200
300

Britain acts in Syria (2)—

On 8th June British-Imperial and Free French forces crossed the frontiers from Palestine and Transjordan and entered Syria. One column moved along the coast in the direction of Beirut, while others converged on Damascus. Despite all hopes to the contrary, they met with strong resistance from the Vichy troops, mainly Foreign Legionaries and Senegalese. On 21st June Damascus was occupied by the Free French. In the coastal sector the navy co-operated, and by the end of the month the advancing column was within sight of Beirut. The navy also maintained a close blockade of all the Syrian ports. Meantime two other columns, operating from Iraq, were advancing north-west along the Euphrates, through Deir-ez-Zor towards Aleppo, and west along the pipeline towards Palmyra (taken 23rd June) and Homs.

On 8th July General Dentz, the Vichy High Commissioner in Syria, asked for an armistice.

198

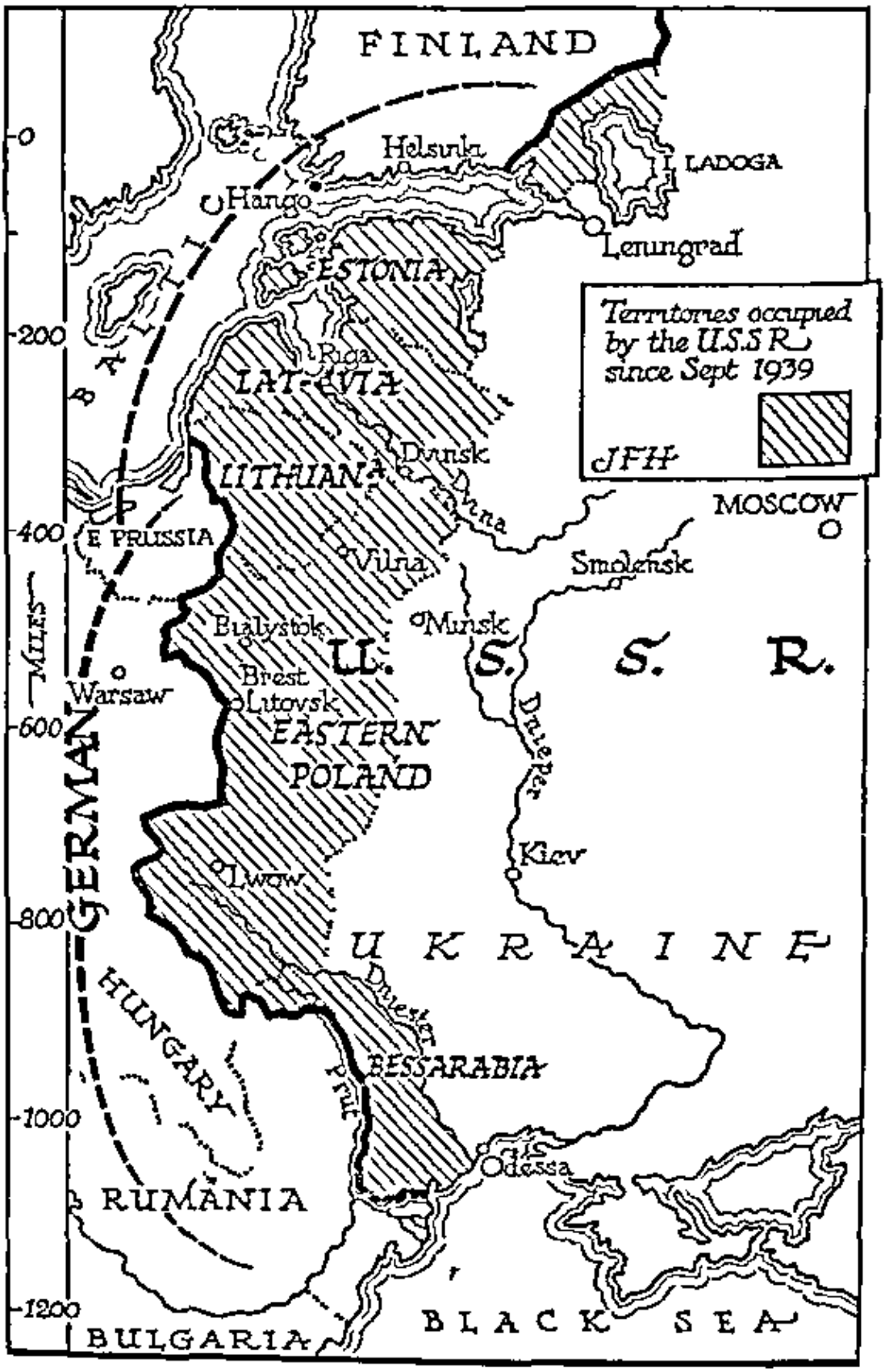

showing distances from frontiers to important Russian centres
FINLAND
90 m.
Karelian Isthmus
LENINGRAD
ESTONIA
Riga
460 m.
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
Dvinsk
Danzig
E. PRUSSIA
Vilna
Vitebsk
MOSCOW
Smolensk
Minsk
Bialystok
630 m.
Vistula
Warsaw
Brest Litovsk
POLAND
Dnieper
350 m.
KIEV
Lwow
SLOVAKIA
UKRAINE
Dniester
Industrial area
300 m.
HUNGARY
Odessa
RUMANIA
CRIMEA
Constanza
Black Sea
BULGARIA

Hitler invades Russia (1)—

As the summer went on Europe was full of rumours and counter-rumours—of German troop concentrations in Finland, Poland, and Rumania; of Russian mobilization along the whole length of the frontier from the Baltic to the Black Sea There were reports of German demands on the U.S S.R ; but on 20th June there was a categorical denial by the Russian official agency that there had been any such demands, or that the friendly relations between the two countries had been disturbed or threatened in any way whatsoever.

At dawn on 22nd June, without ultimatum or formal warning of any kind, Germany launched an attack on Russia along the whole 1,500-mile front. The first intimation of war which the Russians had was the bombing by the Luftwaffe of their western aerodromes and of Kiev and other Russian cities.

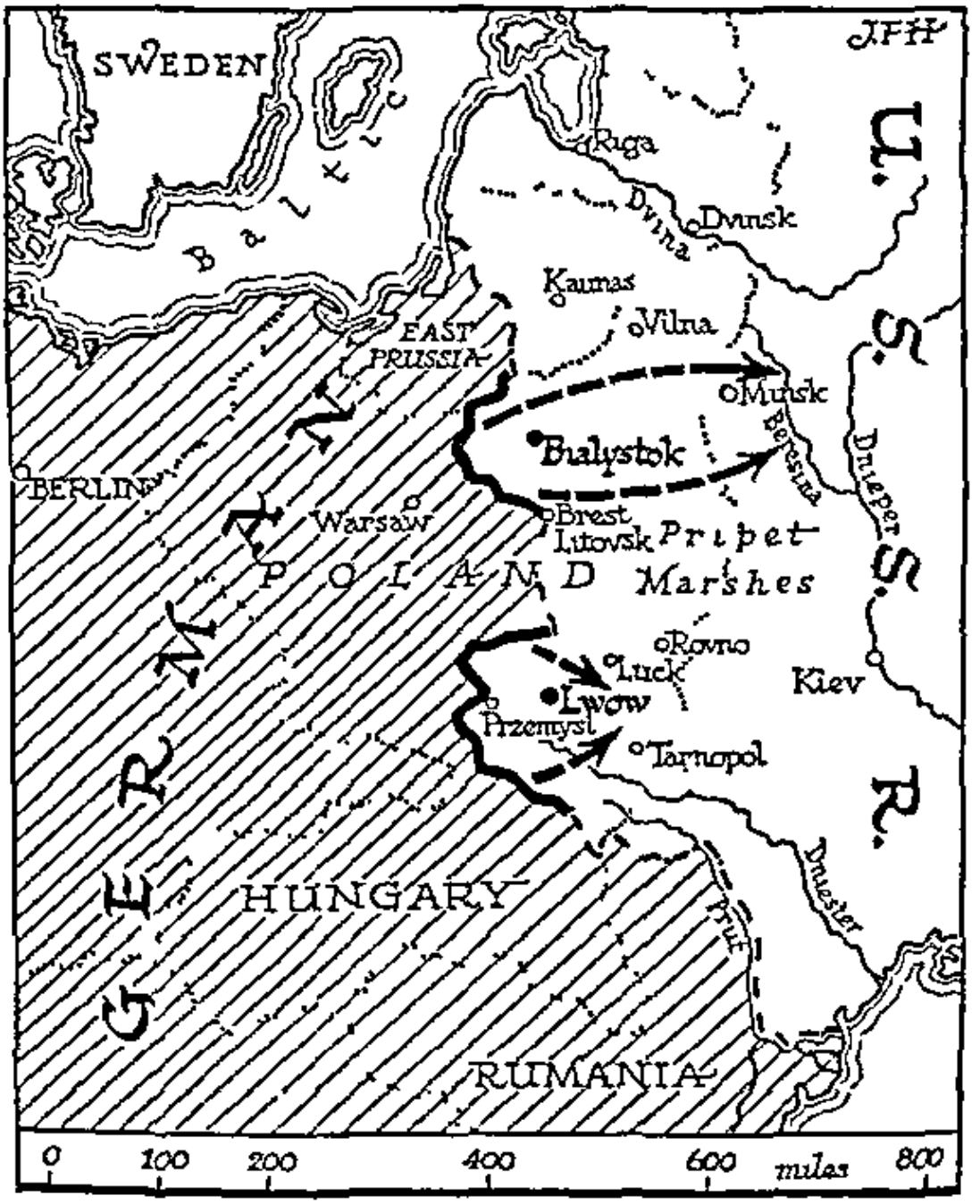
On the evening of that day Mr. Churchill broadcast an offer to Russia of all the assistance Britain could give; and British military and economic missions at once left for Moscow.


FINLAND
Helsinki
LADOGA
Hango
Leningrad
ESTONIA
Territories occupied by the U.S.S.R. since Sept 1939
JFH
Riga
LAT-VIA
Dvinsk
LITHUANIA
Dvina
MOSCOW
E PRUSSIA
Vilna
Smolensk
Bialystok
Minsk
U. S. S. R.
Brest Litovsk
Warsaw
EASTERN POLAND
Dnieper
Kiev
Lwow
UKRAINE
GERMAN
HUNGARY
Dniester
BESSARABIA
Prut
Odessa
RUMANIA
BLACK SEA
BULGARIA
MILES
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200

Hitler invades Russia (2)—

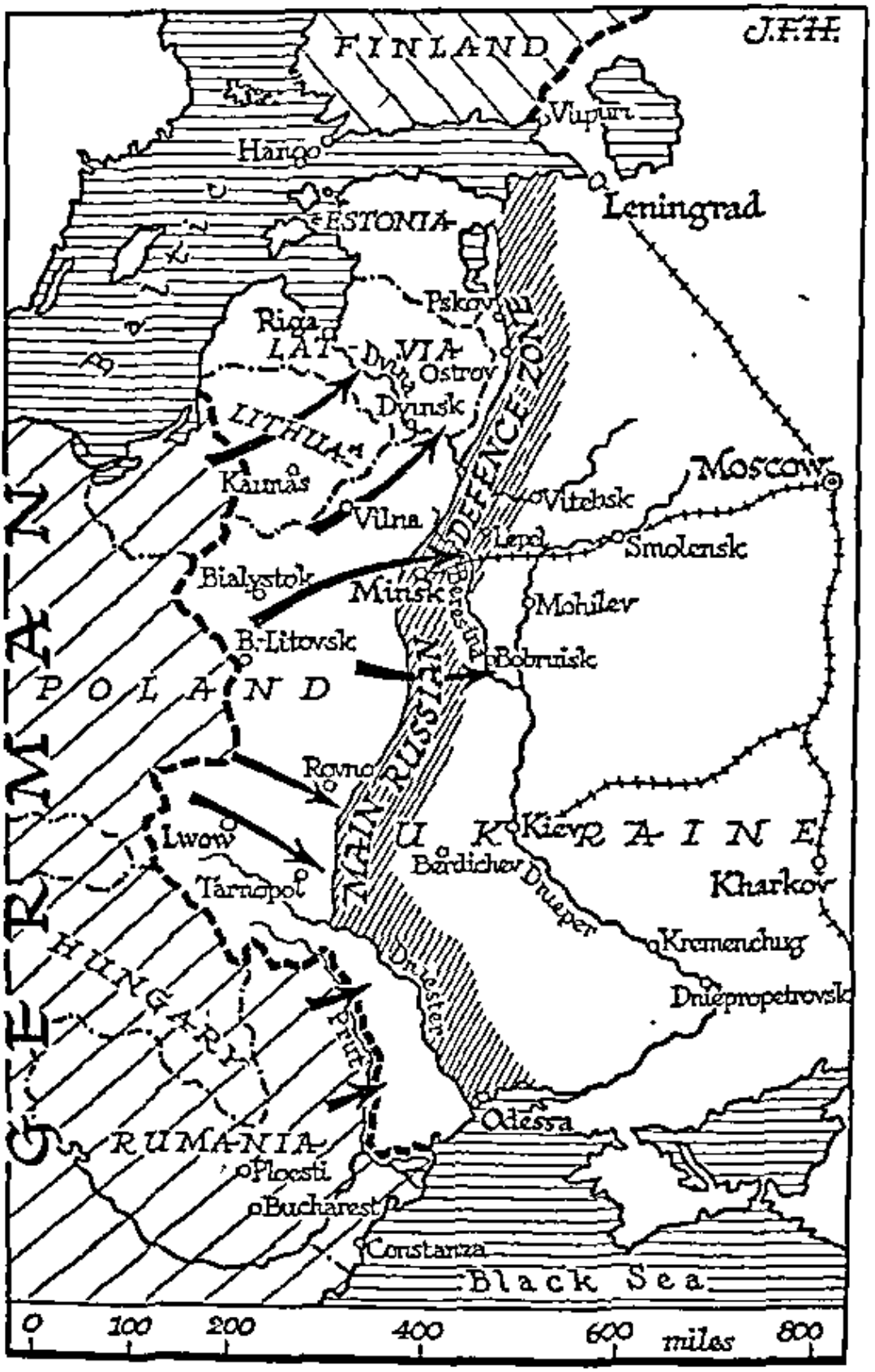
THE aggressor, if he acts without warning, is able to carry the war at once into his victim's territory, and everywhere between the Baltic and the Black Sea the German mechanized armies took the initiative and advanced across the Russian frontier. The earlier stages of the war were accordingly fought on the territories which had been occupied by the U.S.S.R. since the German attack on Poland in September 1939. These included the area around Lake Ladoga, north of Leningrad, taken after the war with Finland, the three Baltic states—Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, which joined the Soviet Union in July 1940, eastern Poland, occupied by the Russians when the Germans took the western part of the country, and Bessarabia, ceded by Rumania in June 1940.

In the north the Finns, while still professing neutrality, permitted German use of their territory, but their neutrality was quickly abandoned and they took an active part in the offensive. In the south Hungarian and Rumanian forces went into action by the side of the Germans.


SWEDEN
Baltic
Riga
Dvina
Dvinsk
U.S.S.R.
Kaunas
Vilna
EAST PRUSSIA
Minsk
Bialystok
Beresina
Dnieper
BERLIN
Warsaw
Brest Litovsk
Pripet Marshes
GERMANY
POLAND
Rovno
Luck
Kiev
Lwow
Przemysl
Tarnopol
Dniester
Pruth
HUNGARY
RUMANIA
0 100 200 400 600 miles 800

Hitler invades Russia (3)—

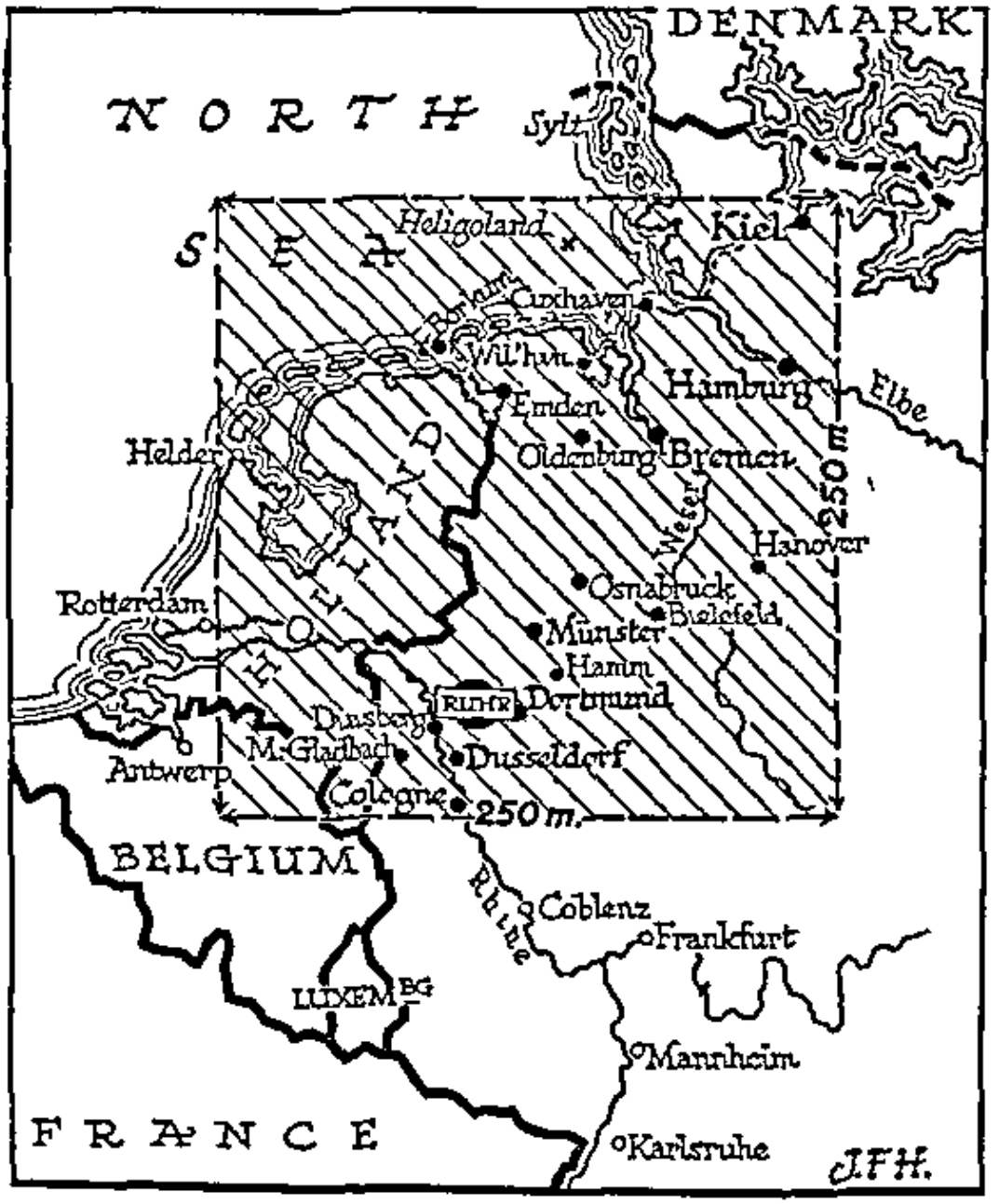
THE Russo-German frontier between East Prussia and Rumania includes two great salients : the northern one, immediately south of East Prussia, with Bialystok as its centre on the Russian side ; the southern one, in south-eastern Poland, around Lwow. Between these two great salients lie the Pripet Marshes, unfavourable ground for large-scale attack. In each of the two areas—obvious jumping-off places for a Soviet offensive against Germany —Russian armies were concentrated. And against both the Germans accordingly directed mass offensives. In the north they aimed at " containing " the Russian armies in and around Bialystok, while their tank divisions struck directly north-east towards Vilna, and east towards Minsk, on the road to Moscow Both these thrusts penetrated deeply into Soviet territory. In the south, the drive on either side of Lwow was slower and less successful, but it forced the Russians back after severe fighting to the Rovno–Tarnopol line.


J.F.H.
FINLAND
Viipuri
Hango
Leningrad
ESTONIA
Pskov
Riga
LAT-VIA
Dvinsk
Ostrov
LITHUA
Kaunas
Vilna
DEFENCE ZONE
Moscow
Vitebsk
Lepel
Smolensk
Bialystok
Minsk
Mohilev
B.-Litovsk
Bobruisk
GERMAN
POLAND
Rovno
MAIN RUSSIAN
UKRAINE
Kiev
Lwow
Tarnopol
Berdichev
Dnieper
Kharkov
Kremenchug
Dniepropetrovsk
Dniester
HUNGARY
Prut
Odessa
RUMANIA
Ploesti
Bucharest
Constanza
Black Sea
0
100
200
400
600
miles
800

Hitler invades Russia (4)—

ELEVEN days after the invasion began the German *communiqué* announced that "*the power of resistance of* the Soviet Army seems to have been broken" But a day later—and for many days after that—German reports spoke of "obstinate resistance." So far from being broken, the Soviet armies were now counter-attacking *from their first main defence positions*—the Stalin Line, running approximately the whole length of the pre-1939 Russian frontier. In the centre of the front, along the Beresina River, and in the north, in Latvia, bitter fighting was in progress. The end of the third week of the struggle saw the first tense breathing-space since the Germans began their attacks. If Hitler had calculated on a quick break-through he had been disappointed.

202


DENMARK
NORTH
SEA
Sylt
Heligoland
Kiel
Cuxhaven
Wil'hvn
Hamburg
Elbe
Emden
Oldenburg
Bremen
Helder
Weser
250 m.
Hanover
Osnabruck
Bielefeld
Rotterdam
Münster
Hamm
Dortmund
RUHR
Duisburg
M.Gladbach
Düsseldorf
Antwerp
Cologne
250 m.
BELGIUM
Rhine
Coblenz
Frankfurt
LUXEMBG
Mannheim
FRANCE
Karlsruhe
J.F.H.

Bombers over the Reich—

THE increase both in frequency of raids and total weight of bombs dropped by the R.A.F. on western Germany during June marked the opening of an air offensive greater than anything previously attempted. When the war began on the Russian front these raids were intensified. There were daily and nightly concentrations on town after town—on the docks and harbours at Kiel, Hamburg, Bremen, and Emden; the seaplane bases of Sylt and Borkum; and the factories of the Ruhr, of Cologne, Düsseldorf, Duisberg, Dortmund, and Münster. The whole area between Rhine and Elbe, and the coastline from Sylt down to Helder, were attacked again and again. In the first seventeen days after the start of the German offensive against Russia the R.A.F. carried out 128 raids on 50 different targets.

203

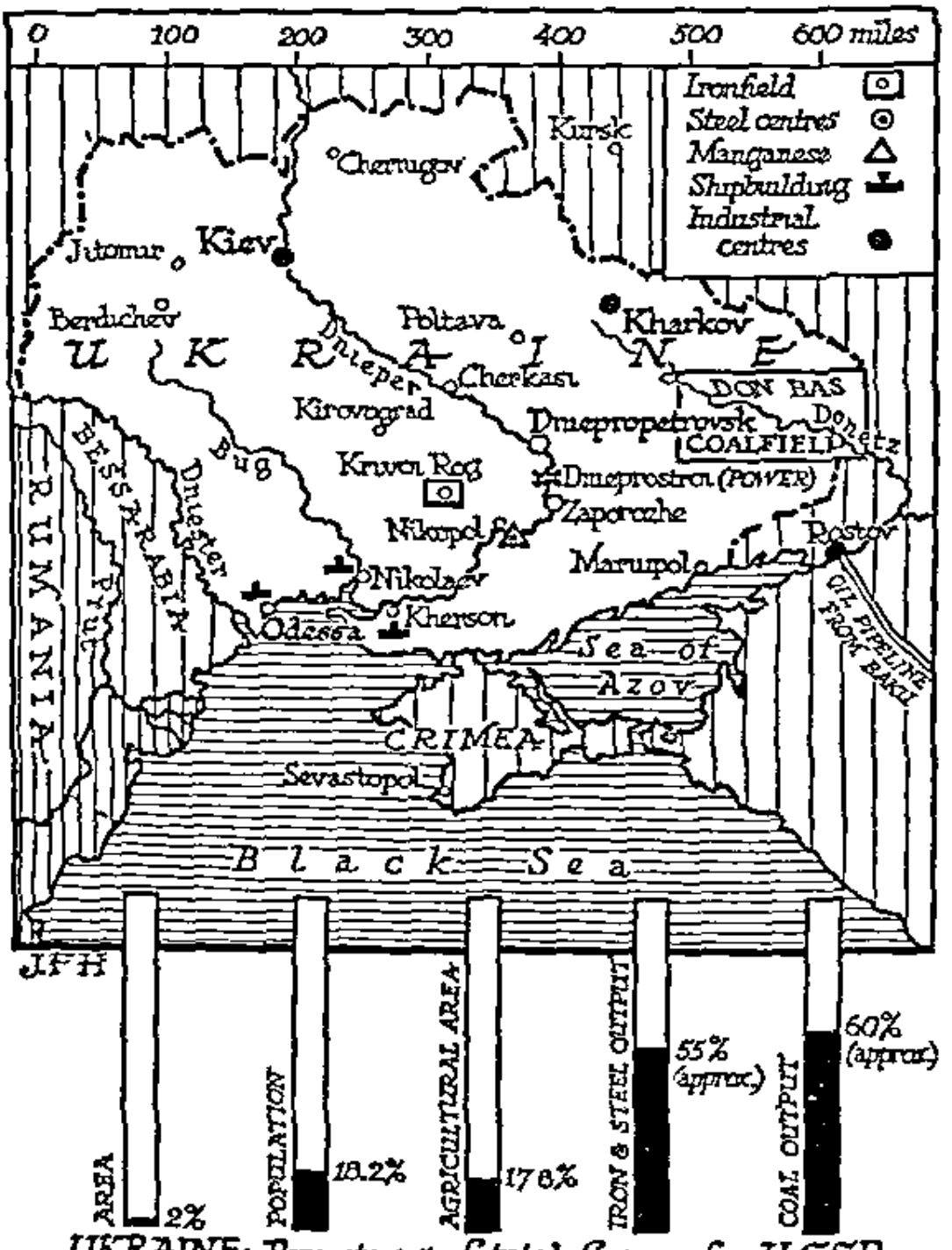

JFH
NORWAY
SWEDEN
FINLAND
Murmansk
Kandalaksha
MURMANSK RAILWAY
Petrosavodsk
L. LADOGA
Hango
G. OF FINLAND
Leningrad
Kronstadt
ESTONIA
Riga
LATVIA
LITHUA
Minsk
DENMARK
GERMANY
POLAND
U. S. S. R.
0
500
1000 miles

The Gateways to Leningrad—

In support of their drive north-east through Lithuania and Latvia, in the direction of Leningrad, the Germans tried to transport troops by sea along the Baltic coast, with the aim of making landings behind the Russian armies. These attempts were defeated by Russian naval forces—destroyers, motor-torpedo boats, and aircraft—and shore batteries. The defence of Leningrad and of the whole eastern end of the Gulf of Finland was of vital importance, the Russian fleet in the Baltic being based on Kronstadt.

Other German attacks, made with the help of the Finns, were aimed at Murmansk, Russia's ice-free port in the extreme north; and against various points on the Murmansk railway which links that port with Leningrad.

204

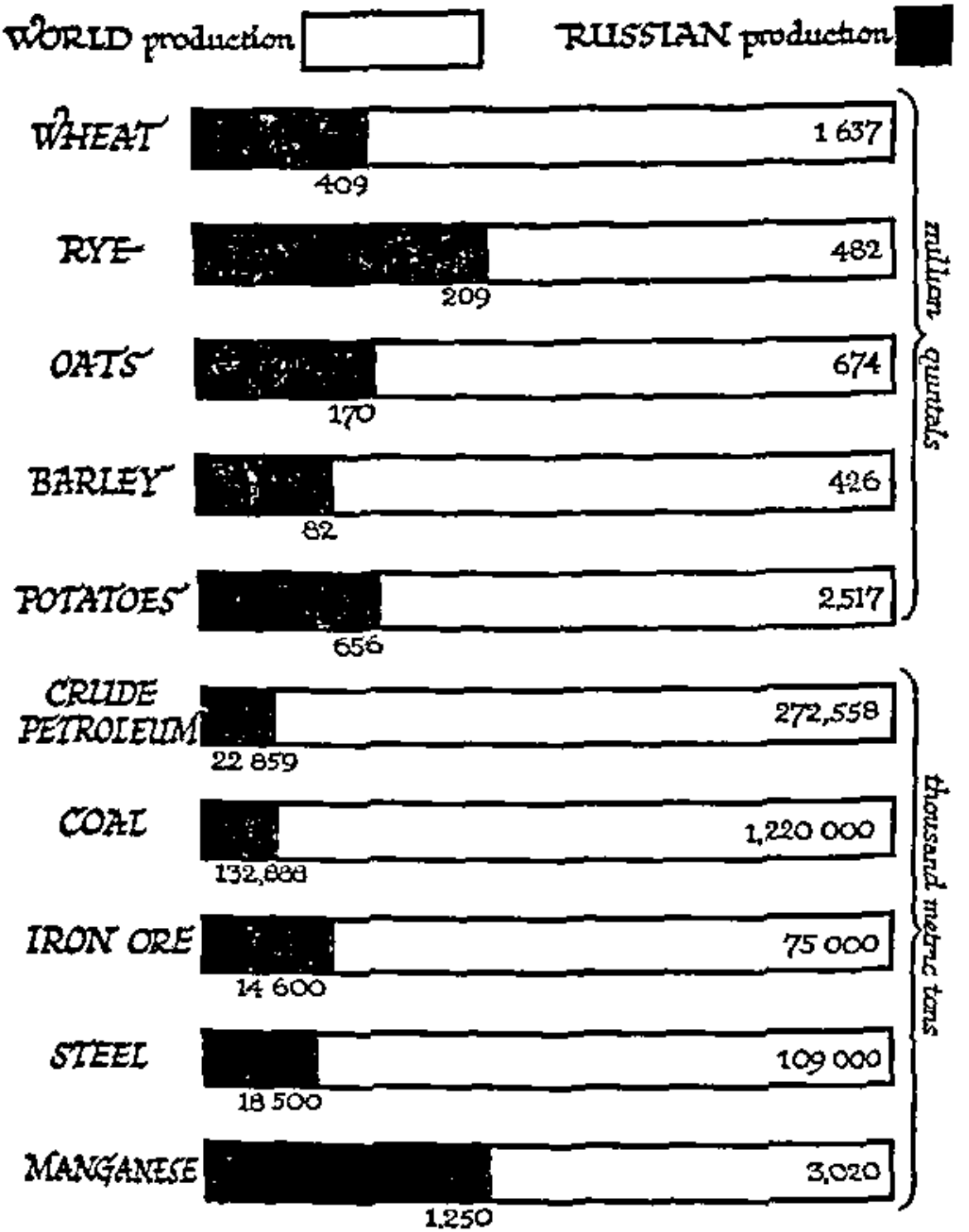


UKRAINE: Percentages of total figures for U.S.S.R.

The Wealth of the Ukraine—

HITLER'S war on Russia was obviously largely inspired by his desire to gain control of the mineral and industrial resources of the Ukraine as well as of the oil of the Caucasus, farther to the south east The Ukraine, though its area is only 2 per cent of the whole U S S R has nearly a fifth of the total population It includes the Krivoi Rog ironfield the Don Bas coalfield, and the manganese deposits of Nikopol , while Kharkov, Dniepro petrovsk, and Zaporozhe—all situated near the great power station of Dnieprostroi—are centres of engineering and metal industries

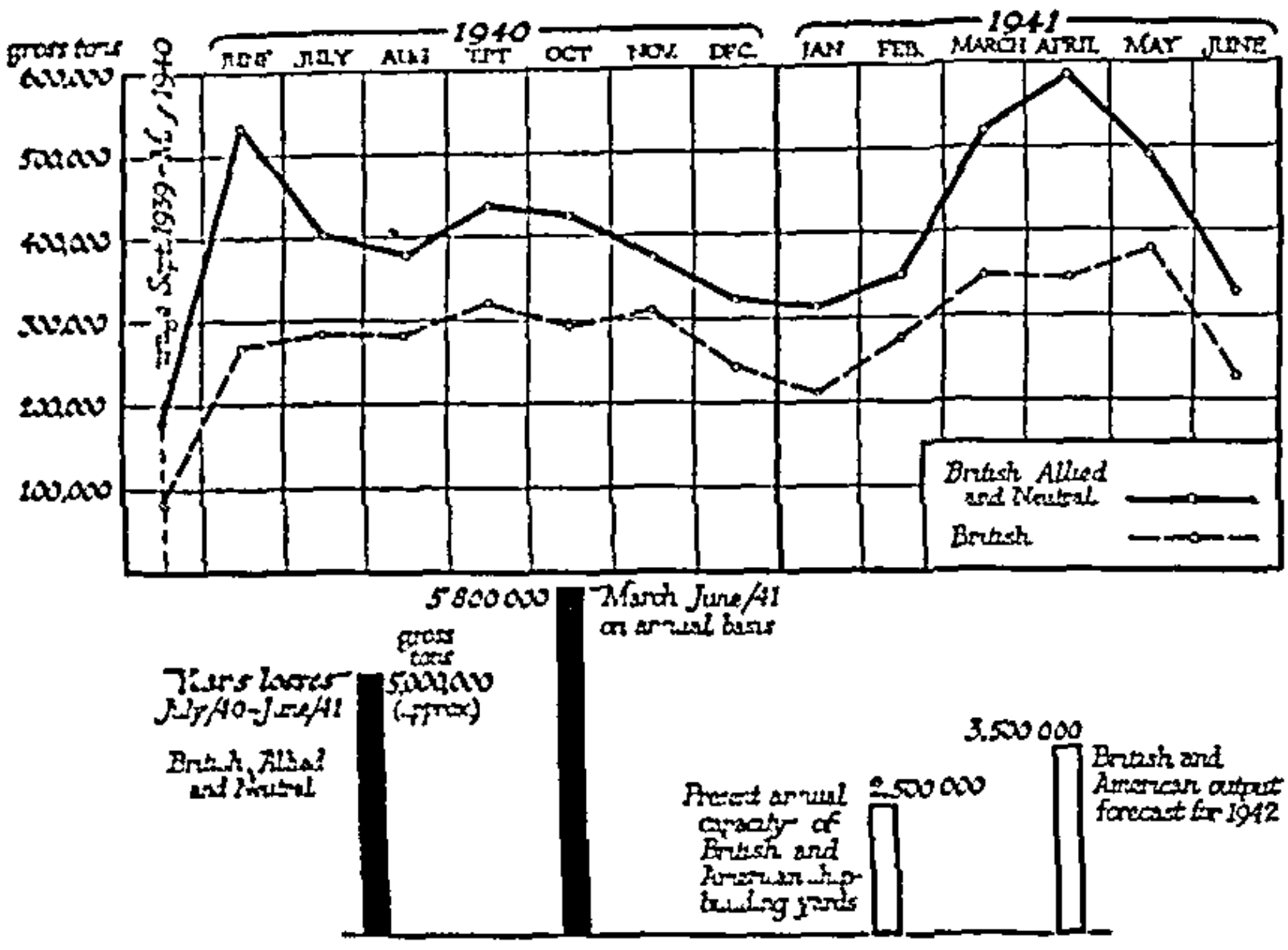
206


WORLD production
RUSSIAN production
WHEAT
1 637
409
RYE
482
209
OATS
674
170
BARLEY
426
82
POTATOES
2,517
656
million quintals
CRUDE PETROLEUM
272,558
22 859
COAL
1,220 000
132,888
IRON ORE
75 000
14 600
STEEL
109 000
18 500
MANGANESE
3,020
1.250
thousand metric tons

Russian Production of Foodstuffs and War Materials—

This diagram shows the raw material wealth of the U.S.S.R. It will be seen that a very large proportion of the world's production of grain is provided by Russia, but, in spite of her large output, domestic consumption leaves very little available for export. Therefore, unless Hitler allowed the Russians to starve, he could not—even if he succeeds in defeating them—take away large amounts of grain for the rest of Europe. Moreover, agriculture in Russia is highly mechanized, and if Hitler used Russian oil to feed the German war machine, he would find Russian production of foodstuffs diminish correspondingly.

In coal, iron, and steel Russia is self-sufficient, and of manganese she exports large quantities. For non-ferrous metals she depends to varying extents on imported supplies.


1940
1941
JULY
AUG
SEPT
OCT
NOV
DEC
JAN
FEB
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
gross tons
600,000
500,000
400,000
300,000
200,000
100,000
Sept 1939-May 1940
British Allied and Neutral
British
5 800 000
March June/41 on annual basis
gross tons
5,000,000 (approx)
Ships losses July/40-June/41
British Allied and Neutral
3,500 000
2,500 000
Present annual capacity of British and American shipbuilding yards
British and American output forecast for 1942

Allied Shipping Losses—

In May the Admiralty began to issue shipping losses on a calendar month basis, and at the same time gave revised figures of losses for previous months The graph of losses for June to December, 1940, therefore, differs somewhat from that given in Volume III The new figures also include the losses at Dunkirk and other evacuations from France, and, in 1941, the losses in the evacuation from Greece and Crete

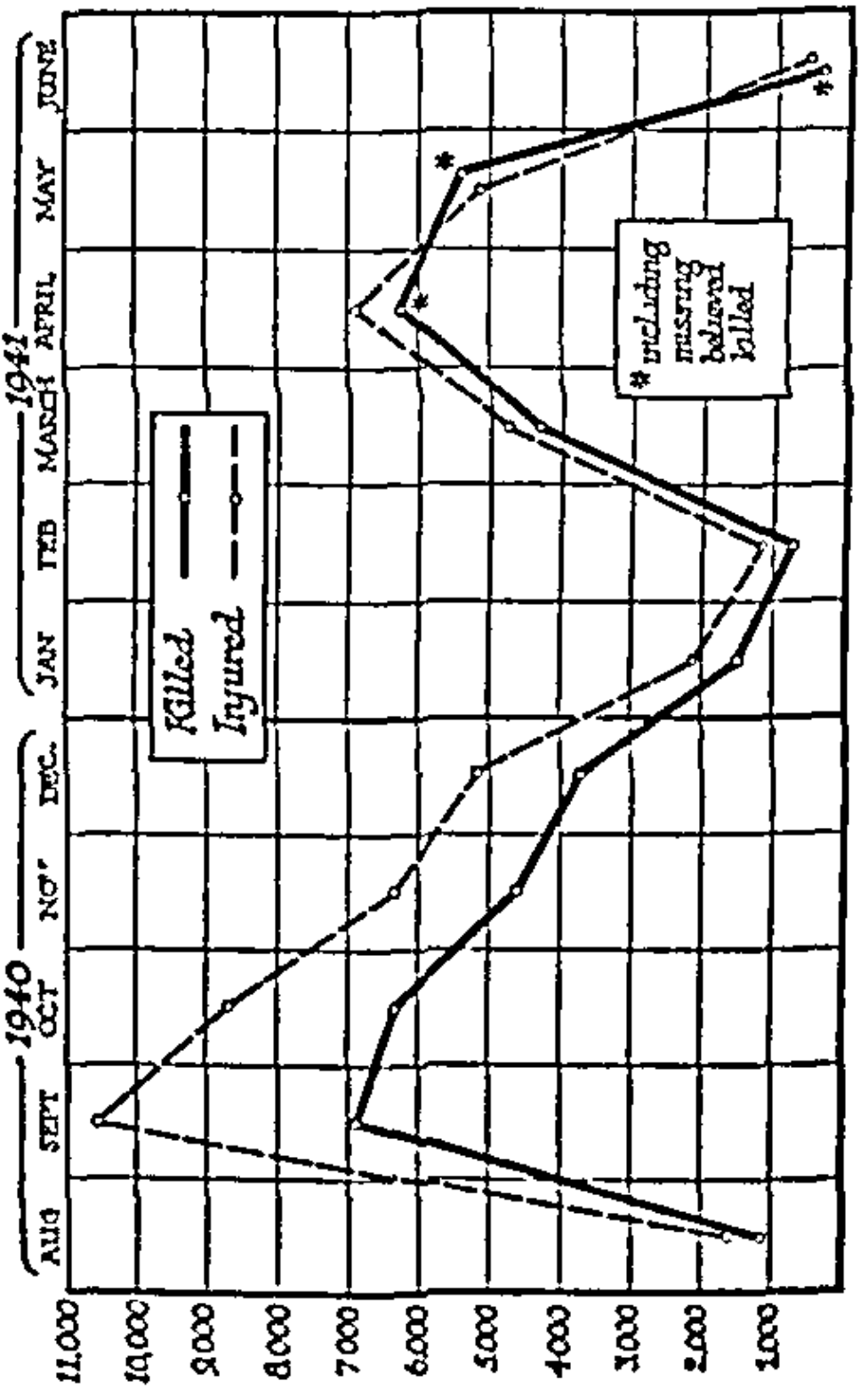
Although a welcome improvement was shown in June compared with the previous three months, it should be pointed out that the June figure is unrevised, and for almost every month the Admiralty has had eventually to revise its original estimate upwards—sometimes by a considerable amount It is, therefore, probable that the annual rate of losses from the start of the spring offensive until June was over six million tons, which, as the diagrams below the graph show, is well beyond the estimated replacement capacity of the British and American yards devoted to merchant shipping

The Admiralty has now decided not to issue regular announcements of shipping losses

(*Continued from previous page*)

—to bring in gold and dollar receipts—if our gold and dollar resources are not to be drawn upon Thus there is still a dollar problem, and it is still important to encourage exports which will bring in dollars

The estimate of British Government expenditure in 1941 represents only orders outstanding at the end of 1940


1940
AUG
SEPT
OCT
NOV
DEC
1941
JAN
FEB
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
Killed
Injured
* including missing believed killed
11,000
10,000
9,000
8,000
7,000
6,000
5,000
4,000
3,000
2,000
1,000

Civilian Casualties in Air Raids—

This diagram includes and continues that given in Volume III (No 152), and shows the total number of civilians—men, women, and children—killed and injured in air raids on Britain for the eleven months August 1940 to June 1941 It will be seen that after the relative lull of the midwinter months the totals of killed in April and May of this year were almost as high as in the peak months of the autumn of 1940, but that the number of injured was much less

AN ATLAS-HISTORY OF THE SECOND GREAT WAR—VOL. III

July 1940 to January 1941

*

This third volume opens with a careful review of Britain's position after the collapse of France, when, ten months after the outbreak of war, we faced an enemy who was in control of Europe from the French Channel Ports to the Russian frontier and threatened us with a coastal front stretching from the far north of Norway to the Pyrenees

A series of maps deals with the ensuing Battle of Britain: the Luftwaffe's raids on London and our industrial centres, and the R.A.F.'s persistent attacks upon the invasion ports, air bases, and factories of the Reich The "Decline and Fall" of Mussolini's African empire is told in a dozen maps and diagrams. Axis activities in the Balkans and the Mediterranean are reviewed, and a particularly informative map sums up the position there in January 1941.

As in Volumes I and II, the diagrams showing comparative air losses, supplies of raw materials, air-raid casualties, etc., are an invaluable source of accurate information.

45 Maps and 8 Diagrams *3/6 net*

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN AT
THE PRESS OF THE PUBLISHERS
112

BHAVAN'S LIBRARY

This book should be returned within a fortnight from the date last marked below

Date of Issue	Date of Issue	Date of Issue	Date of Issue



"LONDON CALLING!" *Wherever you are*, London calls you daily on the radio with the news from Britain, truthful, up-to-the minute, with times and wavelengths specially chosen for *your* own region. *Full details of the coming week's broadcasts in English are transmitted every Sunday morning in Morse to the British authorities nearest to you* and are supplied to newspapers and radio magazines everywhere. Editors are not always aware how easily these can be obtained.

Besides news there is unfolded, day by day, a vivid account of life and opinion in Britain. Ordinary men and women speak through the microphone to the whole world, telling their experiences and their determination. Famous writers and leaders of thought, of every nation, give their views and descriptions. Actuality broadcasts put living moments from the Home Front before you. It is an authentic and human record of Britain day by day.

Items from Britain are re-broadcast locally too, by your own stations, in your own programmes. Look out for them—and, if you would welcome more of them, your stations will be glad to hear from you.

Whilst malicious rumour springs up in every land, the news from London keeps to the facts. Throughout Europe men and women are risking imprisonment and even death to hear this news, because they know it tells them the truth.